

# Bill's Seat – A Report from the North Carolina Legislature - May 23, 2010

By Representative Bill Faison

New legislation is being introduced. It is important to know what folks in our District think and feel about many different issues. I spend a lot of time talking with folks in our District. In the last week or so I have attended Providence Missionary Baptist Church, Prospect Hill VFD chicken dinner, Roland's School of Dance Recital, Orange FFA banquet, Orange County-Hillsborough 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Relay for Life, Leasburg Ruritan breakfast, and Caswell Relay for Life Golf Tournament. I have met with the School Superintendents for Caswell and Orange and discussed Budget issues. Moreover, I am having listening and sharing 'town hall' meetings at the old courthouse in Hillsborough Tuesday, June 1 at 7 p.m. and at the Yanceyville Town Hall Thursday, June 3 at 7 p.m.

**Jobs:** The most pressing issue in our District and across the State is Jobs. Unemployment is at a post depression high. There are 7 regional economic development partnerships serving all 100 counties. Their goal is job creation through bringing in new industries, encouraging existing industries to expand and hire, and encouraging agricultural expansion. I sponsored a bill to continue funding the partnerships.

The N.C. Minority Support Center provides fair and affordable small business, mortgage, rehab and personal loans to stimulate economic development in underserved communities. It serves people in our district in need of help. I sponsored a bill to help it help us.

The N.C. Rural Center funds water projects and has recently announced funding \$25,000 to Yanceyville to find leaks accounting for 27% of the town's treated water being lost. I sponsored a bill to continue the water projects of the Rural Center. Our District has previously benefited from other Rural Center grants.

**Education:** Education is key to more and better jobs. Too many of our young people dropout before completing high school. We must find a way to improve the dropout problem. Parental involvement is important. I

sponsored a bill to continue supporting the PTA Parental Involvement Dropout Prevention Initiative.

Too many of the people in our prisons dropped out of school and are in need of a GED to be better able to take care of themselves and their families. I sponsored a bill to restore funding to the Prison Education Program.

Teacher Assistants are very important in educating our children. I sponsored a new salary schedule intended to provide them better pay.

**Agriculture:** Coyotes are a problem. They take too many calves and too many fawns. At the request of farmers in our District I have introduced a bill to allow year round trapping with catch traps by farmers and trappers.

**See the Bills and Contact Me:** You can see the bills discussed here by going to [www.ncleg.net](http://www.ncleg.net) and using the “Find Bills by Number” tool. The bills are H1755, H1822, H1785, H1861, H1846, H1833, and H1824. I would really like to know what you think. Please contact me at [Bill.Faison@ncleg.net](mailto:Bill.Faison@ncleg.net) to share your thoughts.