

Bill Faison

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November 4, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Raleigh, November 4, 2011 – On Monday, November 7th, Rep. Bill Faison and 35 of his House Colleagues will hold a House Democrats’ Business Caucus Meeting at 10:00 am in Room 1228 of the Legislative Building at 16 West Jones Street.

Immediately following the meeting, the Members of the NC House will hold a press conference in the Press Room, adjacent to the meeting room.

In September, the 36 House Democrats put forth a JOBS Plan for NC with three key components: Cut the Penny Sales Tax by 30 percent and put it in the Budget, Enact a Smart Tax Policy, and promote private sector job growth. The plan restores both State and Private Sector Jobs, and cuts unemployment below 6 percent putting almost 200,000 back to work. At this meeting, the Members will hear from CEOs of small companies in NC and others as to the economic effects on their companies, and their interest in smart tax policy and assistance for small businesses.

On Sept. 8 and Sept. 13, Rep. Bill Faison called on the Republicans to dedicate special Sessions to creating jobs for North Carolinians, not wasting money on Constitutional Amendments. Faison said, “We can amend the State Budget to bring back both public and private sector jobs, implement a smart tax policy that stimulates small businesses to hire, and use our resources to promote business development.”

After four months of rising unemployment in NC, from 9.9 percent in May to 10.5 percent in August, September Employment Security Commission (ESC) data shows unemployment at 10 percent. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics reflects higher unemployment (possibly as much as 17 percent), likely reflecting those not receiving unemployment benefits, the basis for ESC data. Nonetheless, ESC shows 55,083 Regular Unemployment Insurance Initial Claims filed in September 2011, meaning at least this many people recently lost their jobs.

“When the recession began in December 2007, it took 16 weeks to find a job after losing one. At the end of the recession in June 2009, it took 24 weeks. It now takes 40 weeks to find a new job, the longest period of time to find a job in the last 60 years. Worse, when a new job is found, it pays 17.5 percent less. Moreover, household income has declined by almost 10 percent during the decade 2000 to 2009,” said Rep. Faison

Rep. Faison, together with Representatives Alma Adams, Kelly Alexander, Larry Bell, Alice Bordsen, Marcus Brandon, William Brisson, Angela Bryant, Becky Carney, Beverly Earle, Jean Farmer-Butterfield, Elmer Floyd, Rosa Gill, Charles Graham, Phillip Haire, Larry Hall, Susi Hamilton, Pricey Harrison, Dewey Hill, Maggie Jeffus, Patsy Keever, Marvin Lucas, Frank McGuirt, Marian McLawhorn, Henry Michaux, Jr., Annie Mobley, Rodney Moore, Earline Parmon, Garland Pierce, Ray Rapp, Joe Tolson, William Wainwright, Edith Warren, W. A. (Winkie) Wilkins, Larry Womble, Michael H. Wray called on the NC GOP Leadership in the House to answer the challenge of working families.

“Every elected official in NC should focus on helping working families when they need it most,” said Rep. Faison. “I am working to regain control of the House so we can enact a practical common sense JOBS plan that will work. The House Democrats and I are focused on the JOB at hand, helping people. We can fix this.”

The NC House Black Caucus endorsed the plan at their Caucus Meeting Tuesday, Sept. 13 as have other groups around the State.

For links to the plan and related information, go to www.BillFaison.com

Representative Faison represents NC House District 50, Northern Orange and Caswell Counties, and was first elected to the Legislature in 2005. Bill is a staunch supporter and advocate for jobs, education and health care. As a Single Dad, Bill knows how important it is to make good decisions now for results in the future. With three children in college and one in high school, Bill is focused on acting now to secure the future for all of our children.

As a legislator since 2005, he has championed rural high-speed internet access and in his role as Chairman of the House Democrats' Business Caucus, he has taken on the issue of rising unemployment in NC and is calling for a JOBS plan for the State, with a challenge to the GOP Leadership.

For information on the JOBS plan, supported by 35 of his colleagues in the NC House, go to www.BillFaison.com

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