



NORTH CAROLINA CENTER FOR
PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH INC.

NEWS RELEASE

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REPORT ON LEGISLATORS' VOTES IN JUNE BUDGET SESSION AVAILABLE

The N.C. Center for Public Policy Research has released its latest report on how state legislators voted during the recent June 2-23 budget session. The report is the fourth issue of a new vote reporting service begun by the Center in February of this year.

The report released this week shows how all 170 members of the State House and Senate were recorded on 475 votes taken on 281 public bills in the June session. Entitled "HOW THE LEGISLATORS VOTED," the report includes votes taken on the new state employees' health insurance contract and the utility reform bills. Also included are votes on the appropriations bill, the Equal Rights Amendment, and removal of legislators from executive branch boards.

The principal author of the report, Center staffer Jim Bryan, said the vote reporting service will probably continue to be offered in the next session of the General Assembly, which begins in January 1983. Bryan said the Center offers the vote reporting service on a subscription basis to citizens, lobbyists, and news media organizations.

The 1981 North Carolina General Assembly met from June 2-23, 1982, for its sixth session. The General Assembly convened in January-July 1981, again in early October 1981 for a short budget session, and in late October 1981, February 1982, and April 1982 for redistricting sessions. Of primary concern in this latest session were adjustments to the state's budget for fiscal year 1982-83. A shortfall in state revenues necessitated budget cutbacks in various programs, including a controversial freeze on teacher and state employee salary increases.

The Center for Public Policy Research is an independent nonprofit corporation created to examine the policies and practices of state government. It is supported in part by grants from the Mary Reynolds Babcock and Z. Smith Reynolds Foundations, both based in Winston-Salem. Past efforts by the research group have been studies of legislators who serve on executive branch boards, out-of-field teaching, and the effect of federal budget cuts on North Carolina. The Center also compiles ratings of the effectiveness of all legislators, based on surveys of the legislators themselves, lobbyists, and capital correspondents.

Copies of the voting report may be obtained for \$ 5.00 by writing the Center at P.O. Box 430, Raleigh, N.C. 27602 or by calling Beth Briggs at (919) 832-2839.