



NORTH CAROLINA CENTER FOR
PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH INC.

NEWS RELEASE

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CENTER HIGHLIGHTS MOST IMPROVED LEGISLATORS AND MOST INFLUENTIAL LOBBYISTS

The N.C. Center for Public Policy Research has released further results from its survey on effectiveness of the members of the 1981-82 N.C. General Assembly. The Center surveyed the legislators themselves, registered lobbyists, and capital news correspondents. The survey results showed which members of the N.C. House and N.C. Senate most improved their effectiveness rankings since the Center began the surveys in 1977.

In the 50-member Senate, several Senators' effectiveness rankings consistently improved over the three sessions (1977-78, 1979-80, and 1981-82) covered. Those whose rankings improved the most were:

<u>Name of Senator</u>	Number of Places	1981-82
	<u>Moved Up</u>	<u>Effectiveness</u> <u>Ranking</u>
1. Carolyn W. Mathis (D-Mecklenburg)	28	16
2. Robert S. Swain (D-Buncombe)	21	12
3. Henson P. Barnes (D-Wayne)	20	7
4. J. Ollie Harris (D-Cleveland)	19	10
5. Robert B. Jordan III (D-Montgomery)	16	5
6. T. Cass Ballenger (R-Catawba)	12	28 (tie)

When Senators who were members in just the last two sessions (1979-80 and 1981-82) were examined, those Senators who most improved in effectiveness were:

<u>Name of Senator</u>	Number of Places	1981-82
	<u>Moved Up</u>	<u>Effectiveness</u> <u>Ranking</u>
1. Conrad J. Duncan, Jr. (D-Rockingham)	16	17 (tie)
2. Cecil R. Jenkins, Jr. (D-Cabarrus)	15	24
3. William A. Creech (D-Wake)	11	28 (tie)
4. Sam R. Noble (D-Robeson)	10 (tie)	25 (tie)
Joseph E. Thomas (D-Craven)	10 (tie)	34
6. Marvin M. Ward (D-Forsyth)	7	32
7. William W. Redman, Jr. (R-Iredell)	6	39

Only one Senator consistently went down in effectiveness over the three survey periods (1977-78, 1979-80, and 1981-82), and that was Sen. Charles E. Vickery (D-Orange).

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In the 120-member N.C. House of Representatives, several House members' effectiveness rankings improved consistently over the three sessions covered. Those whose rankings improved the most were:

<u>Name of Representative</u>	<u>Number of Places Moved Up</u>	1981-82 Effectiveness
		<u>Ranking</u>
1. George A. Hux, (D-Halifax)	53	26 (tie)
2. G. Malcolm Fulcher, Jr. (D-Carteret)	49	50
3. Mary P. Seymour (D-Guilford)	47	32 (tie)
4. Allen C. Barbee (D-Nash)	43	7
5. Harold J. Brubaker (R-Randolph)	42	57
6. Ruth M. Easterling (D-Mecklenburg)	37	71

When Representatives who were members in just the last two sessions were examined, those Representatives who improved most in effectiveness were:

<u>Name of Representative</u>	<u>Number of Places Moved Up</u>	1981-82 Effectiveness
		<u>Ranking</u>
1. Richard W. Barnes (D-Forsyth)	66	32 (tie)
2. Roger W. Bone (D-Nash)	59	14
3. John J. Hunt (D-Cleveland)	45	12
4. Charles D. Evans (D-Dare)	44	29
5. Tom B. Rabon, Jr. (D-Brunswick)	43	35
6. Wilma C. Woodard (D-Wake)	42	36

Of the 54 House members who served in the last three House sessions, only two of the 120 Representatives -- LeRoy P. Spoon, Jr. (R-Mecklenburg) and S. Thomas Rhodes (R-New Hanover) lost significant ground in their effectiveness rankings.

The comparisons of effectiveness rankings were released as part of the third edition of Article II: A Guide to the N.C. Legislature (1981-82). A new edition of Article II is published every other year by the N.C. Center for Public Policy Research which is a private nonprofit nonpartisan organization based in Raleigh. The publication's author, Lacy Maddox, noted that both Democrats and Republicans were among the legislators who most improved their effectiveness rankings and among those who suffered declines in effectiveness. She emphasized that the rankings were not done by the Center itself but were compiled from surveys of the legislators themselves, registered lobbyists, and capital news correspondents.

For the first time, Maddox said, the Center also released a list of who the respondents thought were the "most influential" lobbyists. The five most influential lobbyists, and who they represent, were as follows:

1. John Jordan - banks, business and industry including: N.C. Bankers Ass'n, N.C. Ass'n of ABC Boards, N.C. Automotive Wholesales Ass'n, Ass'n of N.C. Life Insurance Companies, N.C. Wholesalers Ass'n, Inc., N.C. Manufactured Housing Inst., and University of North Carolina (in his capacity as chairman of Board of Governors, not as paid lobbyist);

2. Sam Johnson - business and industry including: N.C. Associated Industries, N.C. Merchants Ass'n, N.C. Ass'n of CPA's, N.C. Automobile Dealers Ass'n, N.C. Dairy Products Ass'n;

3. Tom White - Tobacco Tax Council, Federal Land Bank of Columbia, Interstate Insurers, Inc.;
4. Ruffin Bailey - insurance and business including: American Insurance Ass'n, N.C. Credit Union League, N.C. Beer Wholesalers Ass'n, N.C. Ass'n of Mobile Home Movers; and
5. Zeb Alley - Governor's Office.

Copies of the third edition of Article II may be obtained for \$6.00 from the N.C. Center for Public Policy Research at P.O. Box 430, Raleigh, N.C. 27602. In addition to the comparisons of effectiveness rankings (see pp. 215-218) and list of influential lobbyists (see p. 214), the publication includes biographical and voting information on each member of the North Carolina Senate and House of Representatives.

For more information, call Lacy Maddox at (919) 832-2839.

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