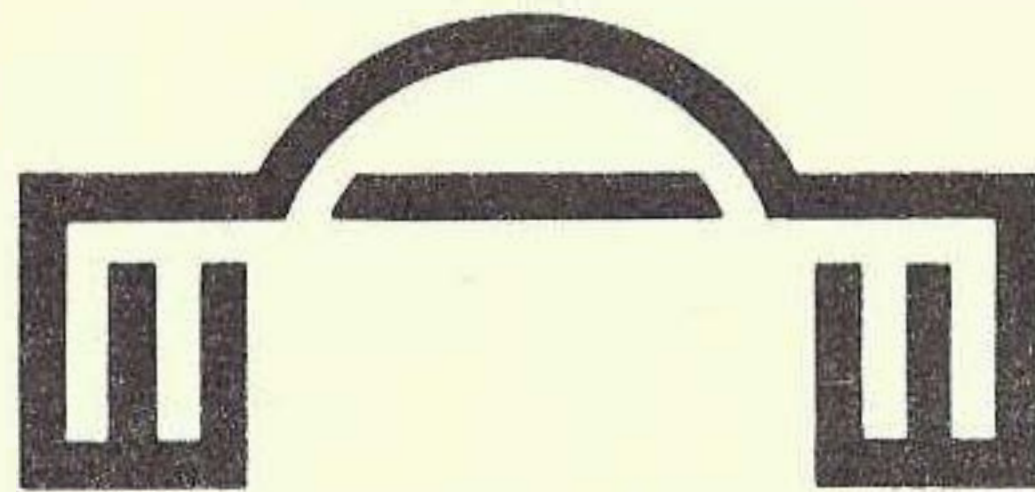




NORTH CAROLINA CENTER FOR
PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH INC.

News Release

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N. C. CENTER RELEASES GUIDE TO LEGISLATURE

The N.C. Center for Public Policy Research released the latest edition of its guide to the legislature today. Entitled Article II: A Guide to the Legislature, 1985-86, the book contains pictures, biographical information, committee assignments, and voting records on all 170 members of the state House and Senate.

This is the fifth edition of the guide. The Center began publishing directories during the 1977-78 General Assembly. This edition is in a new pocket-sized format.

"We publish the guide to provide information to the voters of North Carolina about their elected representatives," says Lacy Maddox, Research Coordinator for the Center. "We think it is the best of the directories available because it is the only one which contains votes on 16 selected bills, a record of how many bills each legislator sponsored and got enacted, and rankings of legislators' effectiveness, if they have served in prior sessions," adds Maddox.

The effectiveness rankings are the most controversial feature of the guide. At the end of each legislative session, the Center surveys the legislators themselves, registered lobbyists, and capital correspondents and asks them to rank the effectiveness of individual legislators. The Center then publishes the scores. "This is an evaluation of legislators by their peers and by people who see them working every day," explains Maddox.

Also included in the guide are:

- House and Senate district maps
- business and home addresses,
- party affiliation, district number, and counties represented,
- number of terms served,
- seat numbers
- occupation and education,
- committee assignments,
- bills introduced, and
- past effectiveness rankings.

In addition to information on the legislators, the guide also contains rankings by the legislators, lobbyists, and capital correspondents of the most influential lobbyists. Historically, former legislators who turn to lobbying as part of their law practices have been rated among the most influential.

The guide is available for \$8.00 plus postage and handling from the N.C. Center at P. O. Box 430, Raleigh, NC 27602 (919) 832-2839. It is a handy reference book for news reporters, lobbyists, and citizens interested in the legislature.

The N.C. Center for Public Policy Research is an independent nonprofit research and educational organization based in Raleigh. It was formed in 1977 to study state government programs and important public policy questions in North Carolina. The Center receives general operating support from the Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation and Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, 44 corporate contributors, and 600 individual members. Past research efforts by the Center include studies of all boards and commissions in state government, the disparity in funding among local school districts, and regulation of auto insurance in North Carolina.

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