

FROM THE CENTER OUT

The Newsletter of the North Carolina Center for Public Policy Research

August - October 1994

"The North Carolina Center for Public Policy Research has offered a balanced, almost restrained assessment of the state's program for regulating pesticides. As such, it provides a solid jumping-off point for reform.... The Agriculture Department would be wise to take its advice."

The News & Observer

Pesticide Study Completed

The N.C. Center released its nationwide study, **State Regulation of Pesticides**, in the September issue of *North Carolina Insight*. The two-year study by associate editor Tom Mather identified both strengths and weaknesses in North Carolina's pesticide program.

The study received national as well as statewide news coverage. For example, an editorial in *The News & Observer* of Raleigh said the Center "report's recommendations are well founded." Reporter Adam Hochberg and WUNC Radio in Chapel Hill used the report to produce a weeklong series called "The Pesticide Paradox" that was aired by public radio stations across the state.

The Center's study was based on a review of five years of pesticide enforcement records from the N.C. Department of Agriculture, a survey of pesticide program administrators in all 50 states, and extensive interviews. The special edition of *Insight* includes an overview of the benefits and hazards of pesticides and a summary of federal and state pesticide legislation.

To improve pesticide regulation in North Carolina, the Center recommended that the state:

- * Revise its system for penalizing pesticide violators so that it assesses harsher fines for more serious offenses and repeat offenders;

- * Take steps to reduce the number of violations by aerial applicators, or crop dusters, who account for an undue proportion of pesticide violations;

- * Achieve a broader balance of interests on pesticide oversight boards, which are heavily weighted with representatives from agriculture, industry, and state government agencies;



- * Compile records on pesticide use in order to deal with potential health or environmental problems, such as groundwater contamination; and

- * Increase training requirements for pesticide applicators, particularly aerial applicators and exterminators.

The *Charlotte Observer* endorsed the Center's recommendations, saying... "They are commonsense suggestions, and legislators should take them seriously."

Most Influential Lobbyists Rankings Released

The Center released the *Rankings of the 50 Most Influential Lobbyists in the 1993 North Carolina General Assembly* in late August. The rankings revealed that the number of new faces working the halls of the General Assembly is on the rise. Fifteen of 50 lobbyists, or 30%, previously had not been ranked. There were also more lobbyists forming teams to win their way with legislators. Six organizations, for example, were represented by three ranked lobbyists during the 1993 session. How they divide responsibilities varies from "You take the House, I'll take the Senate," to "You take the Democrats, I'll take the Republicans," to "You take this bill, I'll take that bill." Hot issues like health care also fueled higher rankings.

Center director Ran Coble was the featured guest on a radio talk show about the rankings, and articles on the lobbyist rankings have appeared in several North Carolina newspapers. An editorial in the *Greensboro News & Record* noted that, "Just as voters, at election time, need to know the candidates vying for the privilege of representing them in the General Assembly, so also do they need to know who it is who has their elected officials' attention.... That's why surveys such as this one, which ranks the top 50 lobbyists, are useful."

ON SALE NOW!!

Vol. 15, No. 2-3 of *North Carolina Insight* on State Regulation of Pesticides (\$14.75)

Rankings of the 50 Most Influential Lobbyists in the 1993 N.C. General Assembly (\$5.00)

Call (919) 832-2839 for details.

Full-Service Members

Full-Service Members contribute \$250 each year to the Center. These members receive all Center publications -- *Insight, Article II*, research reports, the legislative effectiveness rankings, etc. We would like to recognize these Full-Service Members who have joined or renewed their membership in July, August, and September. *New Full-Service Members* are indicated with an *.

Martha Alexander*

James O. Barber -- NCDPI

Leslie Bevacqua -- Porter, Steel & Porter

Eugene W. Cochrane, Jr., -- The Duke Endowment

Gerry Hancock -- Everett Gaskins Hancock &

Stevens

Individual Supporting Members

Individual Supporting Members contribute \$100 or more a year to the Center. We would like to thank our new and renewing Individual Supporting Members and those members who have made special gifts.

We appreciate your support! *New Individual Supporting Members* are indicated with an *.

John Q. Beard

Steve and Louise Coggins

Rennie Cuthbertson

Ann Duncan and Jim

Harrington*

Kathleen Bryan Edwards

Barbara M. Fletcher

Robert J. Fuentes*

Tom Gilmore*

Robert C. Hilton

Bertha Holt*

William Burns Jones, Jr.

William E. & Clea Sue Keenan

Robert and Cama Merritt

Mary Norris and Pat Oglesby

Mr. and Mrs. Lanty Smith

L. Carol Shaw

Zachary Smith

Robert W. Spearman

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Stanback

Special thanks to **Martha Alexander, Ronnie Capps, and Ed Williams** for their generous contributions in the past three months.

New Individual Members: Welcome

Gayle Anderson

Marc Basnight

Myron Dowell

Marsha Downey

Betty C. Ervin

Mary P. Fant

Adam Goldstein

Jackie Herold

Maxine T. Highsmith

Currituck County Public Library

C. Amanda Martin

Bill McAulay

Bill Richardson

Heather Simmons

Michael R. Smith

Barbara Snowden

James R. Strickland

Antoinette P. Vojvoda

Gordon and Beth Whitman

J. Michael Woodard

New Organizational Members: Welcome

Delton Atkinson -- NCDEHNR-SCHES

William H. Batchelor -- City of Rocky Mount

Edgar L. Boyd -- Pitt County Community College

Joint Orange Chatham Community Action

Anita Daniels -- United Way of Greater Orange
County

George W. Gusler -- Asheboro/Randolph Chamber
of Commerce

Worth Hatley -- Randolph County Schools

Richard L. Honeycutt -- Macon County

James L. Lemons -- N.C. Center for Applied Technology

J. Thomas Lundy -- Catawba County

Schley R. Lyons -- UNC-C College of Arts and Sciences

Lewis S. Redd -- Craven Community College

Weaver B. Rogers -- N.C. State Board of Education

CORPORATE CONTRIBUTIONS

The Center welcomes *new* corporate contributors in July, August, and September. They are:

Siecor Corporation	\$1000	ElectriCities NC	250
Alcatel NA Cable Systems, Inc.	500	Long Transportation Services, Inc.	250
The George Shinn Foundation	500	Skybox International	200
Rockett, Burkhead, Lewis & Winslow, Inc.	300		

We also *welcome back* several corporate contributors who renewed their support after an absence of a year or more:

National Starch & Chemical Company	\$1000	First Union National Bank of N.C.	500
------------------------------------	--------	-----------------------------------	-----

Special thanks to these corporate members who *renewed* their support in July through September:

General Electric Co.	\$ 2000	Bessemer Improvement Company	\$ 250
Asheboro Elastics Corporation	1000	Durham Herald-Sun Newspapers	250
Burlington Industries Foundation	1000	Eastman Chemical Company	250
NationsBank Corporation	1000	Hunton & Williams	250
Time Warner Cable	1000	Moore & Van Allen	250
Winston-Salem Journal	1000	N.C. Association of Convenience Stores	250
Hoechst Celanese Corporation	500	N.C. Association of Educators	250
Wachovia Bank of North Carolina	500	N.C. Restaurant Association	250
Winn-Dixie Charlotte, Inc.	500	Raleigh Federal Savings Bank	250
Fayetteville Times Publishing Company	400	United Transportation Union	250
N.C. Textile Manufacturers Association	386	Hesta Properties	200
Liggett Group Inc.	350	Lee Iron and Metal Co., Inc.	200
The Transylvania Times	300		

IN-KIND GIFTS

The Center thanks **FG*I** and **Time-Warner Cable** for their recent in-kind gifts. FG*I contributed the statistical analysis of survey data for our special report: *The 50 Most Influential Lobbyists: Rankings in the 1993 N.C. General Assembly*. Time-Warner Cable donated space for the Center's September Board meeting and provided lunch. The Center also thanks **Ernst & Young** for their in-kind contribution of a portion of the fee for the Center's 1993 audited financial statement. Many thanks to **Joe Hart** for his years of service to the Center in this capacity. And thanks to **R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company** for a \$250 gift toward the purchase of Aldus Pagemaker software.

FOUNDATION GRANTS

The Center would like to express appreciation to **The Janirve Foundation** for its grant of \$25,000 in general operating support. This is a very important contribution to the Center's work.

Preview of Coming Attractions

The next issue of *Insight* is scheduled for January 1995. It will include an examination of issues affecting the health of minority citizens in North Carolina. The issue also will look at trends in university faculty evaluation, the Center's latest rankings of the *Most Influential Lobbyists*, a N.C. Supreme Court case on free speech, and experiments by newspapers in getting the public more involved in public affairs.

Meanwhile, the staff has been invited to testify before two legislative study commissions. *Insight* Associate Editor Tom Mather will share his findings and recommendations regarding state pesticide policy with the legislature's Environmental Review Commission. Center director Ran Coble and policy analyst Mebane Rash Whitman will share research and recommendations on evaluating and rewarding teaching performance with the legislature's Study Commission on the Status of Education at the University of North Carolina.

And, on Tuesday evening, Nov. 8th, beginning at 7:25 p.m., Center Director Ran Coble will provide election night analysis on the 90-station N.C. [Radio] News Network. The reports will be aired each hour at :25 and :55 past the hour until all the Congressional races have been called (around 11:00 p.m.).

1994 Board of Directors

Chairman
Wade Hargrove

Vice Chair
Phillip J. Kirk, Jr.

Secretary
William R. Capps

Treasurer
Patricia J. Shore

Linda Ashendorf
Ron Bogle
Kelvin Buncum
Ned Cline
Dan Clodfelter
George Daniel
Margaret Dardess
Allyson Duncan
Ann Duncan
Randy Fraser
Alice Garland
Thomas Hardaway
Thomas J. Harrelson
Elaine F. Marshall
Edwin W. Monroe
Ann Babcock Orr
William "Cliff" Oxford
Harry E. Payne, Jr.
Fran Preston
Mary Joan Pugh
Ruth G. Shaw
Craig Souza
Nancy Temple
Ed Williams

Executive Director
Ran Coble

Center Staff
Sharon Gibson
Tom Mather
Mike McLaughlin
Danita Morgan
Nancy Rose
Mebane Rash Whitman

NOMINATIONS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OPEN

One of the benefits of Center membership is the opportunity to nominate yourself or others to our governing Board of Directors. Board nominees should be willing to work hard, attend quarterly Board meetings, and assist with fundraising and increasing the Center's membership. The Board sets overall policy and direction for the Center's work and suggest ideas for *Insight* topics and other research reports. Depending on their backgrounds and expertise, Board members also review drafts of articles and major reports for accuracy and clarity. The Board is balanced by race, gender, and geographic location in North Carolina, as well as by political party affiliation. To nominate yourself or someone else willing to serve a three-year (1995-97) term, please submit the name(s) and background information (including information on race, gender, political affiliation, and location) to the **Chair of the Board's Nominating Committee, Fran Preston, or to Center Executive Director Ran Coble.** You may mail nominations c/o N.C. Center, P. O. Box 430, Raleigh, NC 27602, or FAX the information to the Center at (919) 832-2847, no later than Monday, October 24th.

Endowment Feasibility Study Moving Forward

In 1993, the Center began working with Whitney Jones, Inc., to study the feasibility of an endowment campaign for the Center. Funds raised from a potential campaign would ensure the Center's financial security and independence. Phil Kirk, Vice Chairman of the Center Board and President of North Carolina Citizens for Business & Industry, is chairing the Endowment Committee. Committee members include Center Board members and corporate and nonprofit leaders from across the state. In addition, on June 15, Tom Lambeth, Executive Director of the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation and Petro Kulynych, Founding Director of Lowe's Companies, hosted a luncheon in Greensboro to bring Triad citizens up to date on the Center's activities and to seek their input on the feasibility of an endowment campaign. Another luncheon brought together citizens in the Triangle area and was hosted by Dr. Charles Sanders, Chairman of Glaxo Inc., and Wade Hargrove, Chair of the N.C. Center Board of Directors. The informational luncheon was held at Glaxo in Research Triangle Park. Whitney Jones Inc. has been conducting interviews with citizens across the state during summer and will continue this process into the fall. We'll provide an update on the endowment study in the next issue of "From the Center Out."



NORTH CAROLINA CENTER FOR
PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH INC.
P. O. Box 430, Raleigh, North Carolina 27602

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Raleigh, N.C.
Permit No. 1121

