How to Contact Your Legislators Meet the Need NC Policy Institute March 4, 2025 CHERYL POWELL, BSW SELF ADVOCATE ANN RODRIGUEZ, MHA PARENT ADVOCATE

Do You Consider Yourself an Advocate?

Life Experience=
Invaluable Expertise &
Perspective



What is a Policy?

- ► The federal Centers for Disease Control gives this definition of policy:
 - Policy is a law, regulation, procedure, administrative action, incentive, or voluntary practice of governments and other institutions. Policy decisions are frequently reflected in resource allocations. Health can be influenced by policies in many different sectors
- That means that a policy can be:
 - A law passed by the US Congress or the NC General Assembly
 - A rule or policy (these are regulations) put in place by the NC Department of Health and Human Services
 or the Department of Public Instruction or other state agencies
 - A practice that the federal or state government allows
 - An ordinance passed by the county commissioners or city councils.

Who are Policy Makers?

- Members of US Congress
- Members of NC General Assembly
- State Agency representatives
- County Commissioners
- County and Local Officials of governments, school systems, etc.



NC DHHS Secretary Dev Sangvai



US Senator Ted Budd



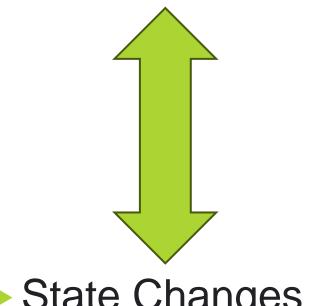
NC General Assembly House Speaker Destin Hall



NC Senate Minority Leader Senator Sydney Batch

Current I/DD Policy Landscape

Federal Changes



State Changes

Advocacy and Storytelling: How do they Fit Together?:

- Advocacy is to defend or promote a cause
- Advocacy is active, not passive
- Advocacy goes beyond changing or shaping legislation or policy
- Advocacy is used for the larger goal of systems change

- Storytelling lets the policy maker know you have invaluable expertise and perspective
- Storytelling can bring out empathy and better understanding of the issue
- > Storytelling helps a policy maker remember your call to action

Advocating with a Clear Call to Action:

- Determine your Call to Action as an individual or organization
 - Note: you can impact issues that seem operational by translating it to your perspective!
- Create your messaging either as an individual or with organizations you belong to
 - It can include concise storytelling and should always include a Call to Action and a thank you
 - An organization can be a resource to assist you with your message
- Identify key legislators and policy leaders
- Convey your message through meetings, emails, phone calls

How to Contact Your NC Legislators

1. Find Your Legislator:

Visit www.ncleg.gov/FindYourLegislators

Enter your address to see who represents you.

2. Ways to Contact:

Call: Find their office phone number on the NC General Assembly website.

Email: Use their official email listed on their profile.

Mail: Send letters to their office at:

North Carolina General Assembly

16 W. Jones St., Raleigh, NC 27601

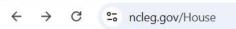
3. Engage on Social Media:

Many legislators are active on platforms like Twitter and Facebook.

Follow them and respectfully share your thoughts.

4. Attend Meetings & Events:

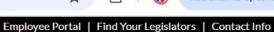
Public hearings, town halls, and constituent meetings are great opportunities to voice your concerns.







Relaunch to update





Bill ▼ Bill # (Ex: H1 or S1)

2025-2026 Session

Q

Home / House

NORTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



North Carolina House of Representatives, North Carolina General Assembly Raleigh, North Carolina



Destin Hall Speaker of the House

The House of Representatives consists of 120 members who serve a term of two years. The presiding officer is the Speaker of the House who is elected by the members for a two-year term. The Speaker's duties include maintaining order in the House and appointing members to committees.

House N	∕lembers
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Member List

Leadership

House Calendars

Current Calendar

Calendar Archive



Home / House / Member List / Representative Sarah Crawford

REPRESENTATIVE SARAH CRAWFORD (DEM)

Biography

Introduced Bills

Votes

Committees

Contact

2025-2026 Session



Democrat - District 66

Wake

Legislative Office:

16 West Jones Street, Rm. 1323 Raleigh, NC 27601-1096 919-733-5823

Mailing Address:

16 West Jones Street, Rm. 1323 Raleigh, NC 27601-1096

Terms in House: 2(1 in Senate) Occupation: CEO, Tammy Lynn

Center

Main Phone: 919-733-5823

Member's Email:

Sarah.Crawford@ncleg.gov

Legislative Assistant:

Portia B. Pittman



MAIN

ABOUT

Contacting your Federal Legislators

U.S. Capitol Switchboard (202) 224-3121

https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative
(Does not give phone numbers)

Senator Ted Budd:

(202)224-3154

304 Russell Senate Office Bldg113

Washington DC 20510

www.budd.senate.gov/contact/

Senator Thom Tillis:

(202)224-6342

Dirksen Senate Office Bldg

Washington DC 20510

www.tillis.senate.gov/email-me

YOU ARE AN ADVOCATE!

Life Experience=
Invaluable Expertise &
Perspective

