

# WHO'S ON THE BALLOT?



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OUR VOTER GUIDE!



## SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT SUPERVISORS

4-year terms

decide local priorities for the conservation and protection of natural resources.



## MAYORS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

2-year or 4-year terms

decide what can be built where, provide public services and utilities such as trash and recycling pickup, water and sewer, roads and sidewalks, parks and recreation, and police and fire. They also decide local equal employment opportunity and nondiscrimination policies for employees and contractors and appoint city positions.



## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

2-year or 4-year terms

pass the budget that funds services including the County Board of Elections, public health, safety, law enforcement, human services, public schools, and community colleges. They fund salaries for county workers and decide the timing and amount of local bonds. The Board appoints county positions including the tax supervisor, tax collector, and county attorney.



## SCHOOL BOARD

4-year terms

members are in charge of public schools within the district and approve and fund school construction, renovation, and management. They set the student discipline policy, hire and oversee the superintendent, and draw school district maps that decide where children go to school. They can select or restrict textbooks or topics allowed in lesson plans.



## NC LEGISLATURE

2-year terms

writes state law and the budget which funds public schools, public health, and the State Board of Elections. They draw voting maps and write election laws for our state. They decide what is a crime and how it should be punished and make rules on how courts, prisons, and jails are managed.



## DISTRICT AND SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES

4-year and 8-year terms

decide disputes on issues that include money, personal injury (including murder), divorce, child custody, and adoptions. They decide criminal cases, who goes to jail and for how long, if someone receives probation, and whether someone must pay back a victim or do community service.



## COURT OF APPEALS

8-year terms

reviews trial court decisions that are appealed. Has judicial review power over the Governor and NC Legislature and can interpret or overturn state laws. Their decisions become law.



## NC ATTORNEY GENERAL

4-year term

represents the state government in legal matters and decides when to bring lawsuits against companies causing harm to the health of North Carolinians, such as companies that pollute our air and water.



## COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

4-year term

decides which insurance companies are allowed to do business in North Carolina. The agency sets insurance rates, regulations, handles consumer complaints, and investigates fraud.

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## COMMISSIONER OF LABOR

4-year term

conducts safety and health inspections of work sites and investigates work-related accidents and deaths. You know this face from elevator inspections.



## COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

4-year term

promotes agriculture, agribusiness, and forestry. They protect consumers and businesses and direct programs of food, drug, and cosmetic testing, oil and water inspection, regulation of pest control, soil and water conservation, and forestry protection.



## SUPERINTENDENT OF INSTRUCTION

4-year term

works with the State Board of Education to set the rules and oversee NC public school systems. They set standards for what is taught and oversee teacher preparation and licensing. They administer over \$11 billion in school funding each year and license 117,000 teachers and administrators across more than 3,000 schools.



## STATE AUDITOR

4-year term

examines the records, files, and finances of every agency or private entity that receives state funds to check for waste and abuse of tax dollars. Reports are submitted to the legislature for public record.



## STATE TREASURER

4-year term

is responsible for the \$122 billion state pension fund and providing medical benefits for more than 950,000 teachers, law enforcement officers and other public workers.



## NC SECRETARY OF STATE

4-year term

approves creation of corporations, registers trademarks, manages land records, and informs the business community about state requirements. They protect citizens and businesses from fraud.



## LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

4-year term

serves as President of the NC Senate and casts tie-breaking votes. Serves as a member of the Council of State, the North Carolina Board of Education, the North Carolina Capital Planning Commission, and the North Carolina Board of Community Colleges, and serves as the Chairman of the eLearning Commission. They can assume Governor's duties if the Governor is unable to serve.



## GOVERNOR

4-year term

has veto power over bills passed by the legislature, has pardon power in state prisons, and decides how state government buildings, vehicles and operations impact the environment. They appoint members of the State Board of Education and State Board of Elections. The Governor alone has the power to declare a state of emergency and request federal funding after severe weather events.



## US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2-year terms

makes federal laws including the budget and rules for citizenship and can declare war and regulate the armed services. Creates and oversees federal government agencies.



## PRESIDENT

4-year term

is the chief executive of the US, with responsibility for federal agencies. Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces. Appoints federal judges and officials including the US Supreme Court. Signs or vetoes federal laws and can call Congress into session.