

# Legislative Update

Presented by: David Barnes, ElectriCities of N.C.

Drew Elliot, ElectriCities of N.C.

# Federal Legislative Update

Key players and key issues





### **An Influential Delegation**

#### Democrats

- David Price: Chair, Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee
- G.K. Butterfield: House Energy and Commerce Committee

#### Republicans

- Richard Burr: Chair, Senate Intelligence Committee
- Patrick McHenry: Republican Leader, House Financial Services
   Committee
- Mark Walker: Founder, Republican Study Committee
- Virginia Foxx: Republican Leader, House Education and Labor Committee
- Mark Meadows: Chair, House Freedom Caucus
- Richard Hudson: House Energy and Commerce Committee
- David Rouzer, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
- George Holding: House Ways and Means Committee





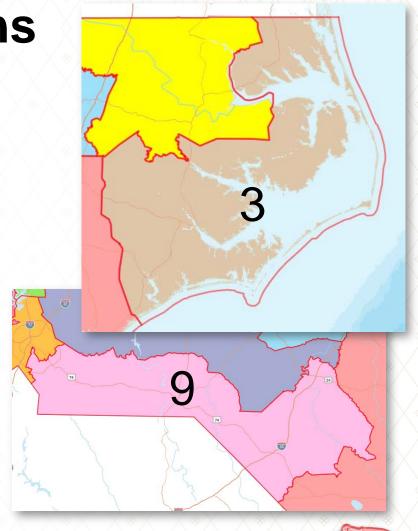
## **Special Elections**

#### US House District 3 (Jones seat)

- State Rep. Dr. Greg Murphy won July 9 runoff
- General election pits Murphy against Democrat Allen Thomas on September 10
- Winner will be seated in Congress immediately to serve until Jan. 2021

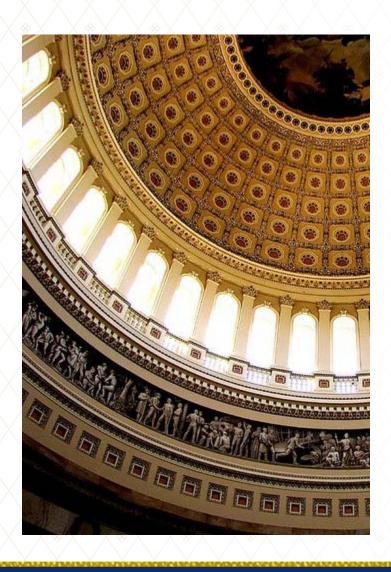
#### US House District 9 (Pittenger seat)

- "Battle of the Dans"
- Entrepreneur and retired Marine officer Dan McCready is the Democratic candidate
- State Sen. Dan Bishop, a lawyer, is the GOP candidate
- General election will occur on September 10
- Winner will be seated in Congress immediately to serve until Jan. 2021









### **Energy Policy**

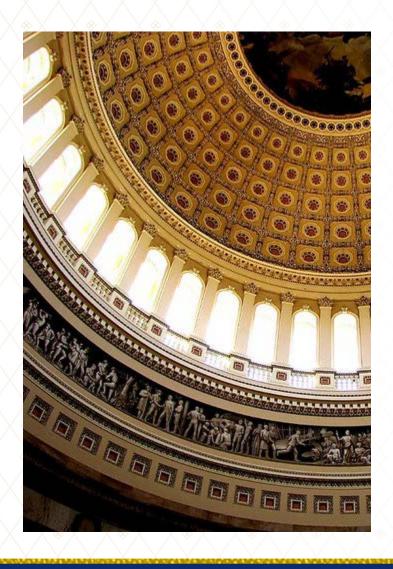
#### **Senate Approach**

- Senate floor time and political messaging
- Green New Deal vote
- Murkowski (R-AK) continues to press energy legislation

#### **House Approach**

- Leadership agenda and climate change
  - Energy and Commerce Dems introduce plan to mandate net-zero GHGs by 2050
  - RES and CES bills renewable targets and decarbonization (would supersede NC law)



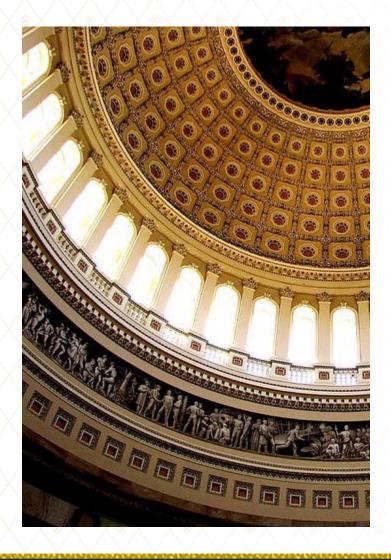


## Cybersecurity

- Continues to be an area of intense scrutiny
  - Event-driven response risk
  - "Western utility" hacked with grid interruption
  - Key policymakers support FERC/NERC process and maintaining current regulatory construct
- Many bills and resolutions in Congress on Cybersecurity



## **Tax Reform & Budget**



- Budget deal reached July 22
  - Suspends debt ceiling until July 2021
  - Spending pegged at \$2.7 trillion over two years
  - Federal debt will likely pass 80% of GDP, double the 2010 level
- Tax extenders
  - Not part of budget deal
  - Municipal bonds largely held harmless
- Tax policy and climate change
  - Cap-and-dividend approach





## 2020 Congressional Landscape



US House: 435 Seats (218)				
GOP needs 18 Seats				
2016 Result	D Seats 235	R Seats 199		
Clinton	204	3		
Trump	31	196		

US Sena	US Senate: 100 Seats (50 or 51)  Dems need 4 seats				
De					
2016 Result	D Seats 12	R Seats 22			
Clinton	10	2			
Trump	2	20			



## 2020 Congressional Landscape



US House: 435 Seats (218)					
GOP	GOP needs 18 Seats				
2016 Result	D Seats 235	R Seats 199			
Clinton	204	<b>3 3 3</b>			
Trump	\$313 W	196			

	US Senate: 100 Seats (50 or 51)				
X	Dems need 4 seats				
	2016 Result	D Seats 12	R Seats 22		
	Clinton	10	<b>2</b> 23		
	Trump	\$\frac{1}{2} \text{2} \text{2} \text{2} \text{2}	20		



# State Legislative Update

Divided government: Compromise or gridlock?



# **Current State Leadership**



- Gov. Roy Cooper (D)
- Nash County native
- Served in General Assembly (1987-2001) and as NC Attorney General (2001-2017)



- NC Supreme Court
   Chief Justice Cheri
   Beasley (D)
- From Fayetteville
- NC Supreme Court has
   6-1 Dem. makeup
- 3 seats on 2020 ballot



- Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger (R)
- Lawyer from Eden
- Served in General Assembly since 2001



- Speaker of the House Tim Moore (R)
- Lawyer from Kings Mountain
- Served in General Assembly since 2003





#### Republicans hold both chambers

#### **Senate**

- 29 Republicans, 21 Democrats
- 30 votes needed to override veto

#### House

- 65 Republicans, 55 Democrats
- 72 votes needed to override veto





- Budget bill passed June 27
  - \$24.0 billion
  - Raises teacher salaries by 3.5% over two years
  - Most state employees would receive a 2.5% raise each year
- Gov. Cooper vetoed bill on June 28
- State fiscal year began July 1
- No shutdown





- House Bill 329 Renewable Energy Amends
  - Became law July 29
  - Allows resale of electricity
    - Only for EVs
    - Electricity must be from utility
    - Makes clear that utilities can build own charging stations too



Officer Jason Quick of Lumberton was struck and killed by a motorist while responding to an accident on I-95 in 2018.

- S.B. 29 "Officer Jason Quick Act"
  - Increases penalties for a driver who fails to move over and causes serious injury or death to a law enforcement officer or other public service vehicle operator
  - Includes utility workers
  - Effective Dec. 1, 2019







- "Keeping the Lights On" Special Plate
- House Bill 449/Senate Bill 61
- Benefits UNC Jaycee Burn Center
- Fate uncertain





- Now law
  - S.B. 310 Rural Broadband
- Pending bills
  - S.B. 68 Relocation of Water/Sewer Lines
  - S.B. 377 Military Base Protection Act



#### The Value of Public Power



- May 29
- Three food trucks from area public power communities Apex and Wake Forest
- Approximately 450 attendees
- Positive feedback from legislators and staff









