CHARLOTTE.

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE
M E M O R A N D U M

March 15, 2013

TO: Julie Burch, Interim City Manager
Ron Kimble, Deputy City Manager

FROM: Dana Fenton, Intergovernmental Relations Manager

SUBJECT: **Week 7 State Legislative Report**

HOT TOPICS

Charlotte Regional Airport Authority Act (SB 81 – Rucho / HB 104 – Brawley) Legislation transfers control of the Charlotte Douglas International Airport from the City of Charlotte to an independent Authority composed of 13 members; Charlotte City Council, Charlotte Mayor, County Commissions of Mecklenburg, Gaston, Cabarrus, Lincoln, Iredell and Union, Speaker of the House, Senate President Pro Tem, and Governor would each get one appointee; final two appointees would be picked by Authority members; in Senate Finance, committee added power for the Authority to exercise eminent domain for public uses at the Airport but only after being authorized by a majority of the eight local government appointee members of the Authority; SB 81 goes on to state that the power of eminent domain may not be used by the Authority to acquire land for uses such as hotels, motels, restaurants, or industrial parks; HB 104 referred to House Transportation; SB 81 passed Senate and has been sent to the House

Panther's Stadium (HB 193 – Samuelson, W. Brawley, Carney, Earle) Legislation allows City of Charlotte to utilize Convention Center funds to finance improvements to Bank of America Stadium, which funds are already needed to finance coming Convention Center improvements; funds in the Convention Center account are not even enough to finance the needed stadium improvements; reported out of House Government on 3/14

Mecklenburg Revaluation (HB 200 – W. Brawley, Cotham / SB 159 – Tarte, Rucho) Legislation requested by Mecklenburg County to correct issues related to the recent countywide revaluation; HB 200 referred to House Government, and SB 159 referred to Senate Finance

STATE BUDGET

The subcommittees of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees continued meeting jointly this week. Plans are in place for subcommittees to meet though late-April. In early May, the Senate Appropriations Committee will consider and present a proposed budget to the full Senate by May 7, which the full Senate would vote on by May 9. The House would then vote on its budget plan by May 30, which would then start the budget conference process. June 13 has been set aside as the date to pass the budget conference report, which would then be sent to the Governor for approval. A mid-June passage of the budget presages a General Assembly session that would adjourn no sooner than late-June.

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Long Term Investment Program (SB 276 – Clodfelter) Charter bill that amends City's long term investment authority to enable use of "prudent investor" rule; referred to Senate State and Local Government

Public Transportation Buses (SB 301 – Graham) Increases maximum allowable length of public transportation buses from 45 to 60 feet, thus allowing use of higher capacity articulated buses; referred to Senate Transportation

Infrastructure Improvements (SB 104 – Hartsell) Legislation eliminates the July 1, 2013 sunset date of the Special Assessments for Critical Infrastructure Needs Act of 2008; SB 104 is consistent with City and MTC legislative agendas that requested extension of sunset date to allow for continued examination of Red Line Regional Rail project and not lose one of the sources of funding for the project

Transportation Project Financing (SB 322 – Clodfelter) Legislation allows local government to use special obligation bond financing for public transportation projects; referred to Senate Finance

Civil Service Board (SB 299 – Graham) Charter bill that increases membership of Charlotte Civil Service Board from 7 to 9 members; referred to Senate State and Local Government

DEVELOPING ISSUES

Zoning/Design & Aesthetic Controls (HB 150 – Dollar, W. Brawley, Moffitt, Jordan / SB 139 – Clodfelter, Gunn, Tarte) Legislation restricts use of design standards by counties and cities for any residential dwelling subject to the NC Residential Code for One and Two Family Dwellings; several exceptions are granted for dwellings located in historic districts and national registers of historical places, local, State or federal national historical landmarks, manufactured or modular housing, life safety codes, and national flood insurance program areas; SB 139 referred to Senate Commerce and HB 150 to House Regulatory Reform; HB 150 reported out of committee on 3/13 and will be debated on 3/19.

Towns Enforce Ordinances on Lake Norman (HB 186 – Jeter / SB 142 – Tarte) Local legislation authorizes towns of Cornelius, Davidson, Huntersville, Mooresville and Troutman to enforce ordinances adopted by the towns on the waters of Lake Norman extending 2,500 feet from the shoreline at the 760 waterline (the 760 waterline indicates that the elevation of the lake is 760' when full); SB 142 referred to Senate State and Local Government

Eminent Domain Constitutional Amendment (HB 8 – McGrady, Stam, Lewis, Goodman): HB 8 proposes for voter consideration a constitutional amendment prohibiting condemnation except for a public use; legislation similar to that filed in 2011 but was never acted upon by the Senate; HB 8 passed the House and has been sent to the Senate; referred to Senate Rules

Repeal Combined Motor Vehicle & Registration System (HB 30 – Stevens, Starnes): HB 30 would repeal the 2005 law that provides for payment of local motor vehicle taxes at the same time the annual state vehicle registration is required; system will soon be going online and is expected to result in a higher rate of taxes collected; referred to House Transportation

Annexation Amendment (HB 79 – Pittman, Hardister, Ford): Proposed constitutional amendment would amend Article VII of Section 1 to prohibit the General Assembly from authorizing any annexation initiated by local governments unless two-thirds of the registered voters living in the affected area approve the annexation; amendment also prohibits the exercise of ETJ powers; referred to House Government

Repeal of Extraterritorial Jurisdictional Powers (HB 264 – Pittman) "Justice for Rural Citizens Act" repeals authority of cities and towns to exercise extraterritorial jurisdictional (ETJ) powers in adjacent unincorporated areas due to inability of ETJ residents to vote in municipal elections; referred to House Government

BILL FILING DEADLINES

Bill Filing Deadlines	Filed in Senate by 3:00 p.m.	Filed in House by 3:00 p.m.
Study Commission Bills	--	Wednesday, February 27
State Agency Bills	--	Wednesday, March 20
Local Bills	Wednesday, March 13	Wednesday, April 3
Public Bills (All Public Bills)	Thursday, March 28	--
Public Bills & Resolutions (Not Appropriations or Finance)	--	Wednesday, April 10 by 1:00 pm
Public Bills (Appropriations and Finance)	--	Wednesday, April 17

Crossover deadline for both chambers is Thursday, May 16.

BILL TRACKING REPORT

The following report shows all bills being followed by City staff.

Bill # Title (Sponsors)	Summary of Major Provisions & Impacts Upon City	Bill Status	Staff Resource(s)
City's Legislative Agenda			
SB 276 Charlotte Charter/Investments (Clodfelter)	Allows the City to make investments which meet the "prudent person" standard	Referred to Senate State and Local Government	Finance
SB 301 Increase Allowed Size of Passenger Buses (Graham)	Allows passenger buses that have an overall length of 60 feet or less to operate on public streets and highways	Referred to Senate Transportation	CATS
SB 104 Eliminate Critical Infrastructure Sunset (Hartsell, Meredith)	Bill eliminates the sunset date of the Special Assessments for Critical Infrastructure Needs Act Consistent with City and MTC legislative agendas	Referred to Senate Finance	CATS
SB 322 Amend Authority for Local Special Obligation Bonds (Clodfelter)	Allows local governments to issue special obligation bonds for public transportation facilities	Referred to Senate Finance	Finance
SB 299 Charlotte Charter/Civil Service Board (Graham, Clodfelter)	Increases the membership of the City of Charlotte Civil Service Board from seven to nine	Referred to Senate State and Local Government	City Clerk
General			
HB 4 Unemployment Insurance Reform (Howard, Warren, Starnes, Setzer) Similar to SB 6 (Rucho, Rabon, Brock)	Legislation strongly supported by NC Chamber of Commerce and business community in general; Described by Sponsor as "option" to retire $2.5 billion unemployment insurance debt owed to federal government three years faster (2016 rather than 2019); Reduces maximum weekly benefits and duration of benefits for future recipients; Requires reimbursing employers, such as local governments, to establish reserve accounts equal to 1% of taxable wages to advance pay benefits; Requirement to establish reserve account to advance pay benefits will require City to establish fund of approximately $1.5 million Effective July 1, 2013	Signed by Governor on 2-19	HR Budget

Bill # Title (Sponsors)	Summary of Major Provisions & Impacts Upon City	Bill Status	Staff Resource(s)
HB 6 Public Sector Collective Bargaining / Right to Work / Secret Ballot Constitutional Amendments (Tillis, Moffitt, Murry) Similar to HB 53 (Tillis, Moffitt, Murry)	Proposes that State Constitution be amended to include long term prohibition on public sector collective bargaining and right to work laws, and guarantee to secret ballots in union elections; November 2014 general election ballot	Referred to Rules, Calendar and Operations of the House Committee	HR
HB 8 Eminent Domain (McGrady, Stam, Lewis, Goodman)	Proposes that State Constitution be amended to prohibit condemnation except for a public use; Similar to Edition 3 of 2011-2012 HB 8 that passed House but was not considered by Senate; November 2014 general election ballot	Passed third reading in House; referred to Senate Rules and Operations Committee	E&PM
HB 30 Repeal Combined Motor Vehicle & Registration System (Stevens, Starnes)	Bill repeals 2005 law and subsequent amendments to provide for payments of local motor vehicle taxes at same time state vehicle registration is due to ensure owners pay their taxes	Referred to Transportation Committee	Finance
HB 53 Right to Work (Tillis, Moffitt and Murry)	Amends NC Constitution to guarantee an individual's right to work and prohibits contracts between state/local governments and labor organizations; Makes statutory changes to Article 10 of Chapter 95	Referred to Rules, Calendar and Operations of the House Committee	HR
HB 74 Periodic Review and Expiration of Rules (Murry, Moffitt, Samuelson and Bryan)	Allows for the expiration of a permanent rule unless there is a readoption of the rule by the Rules Review Commission	Referred to House Regulatory Reform Committee	E&PM
HB 79 Annexation amendment (Pittman, Hardister)	Amends the NC constitution to restrict annexation by municipalities. Requires any municipal initiated annexation to be approved by 2/3 of the voters residing in the affected area.	Referred to Committee on Government	Planning
HB 110 Public Contracts/ Public Labor (Goodman, Bell, Moffitt, and Murry)	Prohibits contracts that requires a bidder or contractor to enter into an agreement with a labor organization as a term of a contract	Referred to Committee on Government	E&PM

Bill # Title (Sponsors)	Summary of Major Provisions & Impacts Upon City	Bill Status	Staff Resource(s)
SB 81 Charlotte Regional Airport Authority (Rucho) HB 104 Charlotte Regional Airport Authority (W. Brawley, Samuelson, Moffitt, Torbett, Saine and Ramsey)	Transfers City's control of the Charlotte Douglas International Airport to a 13-person authority to operate the airport. The authority would be comprised of appointments by the NC Governor, General Assembly leadership, Charlotte Mayor and Council, as well as Mecklenburg, Gaston, Cabarrus, Union, Lincoln and Iredell counties. Identical to introduced version of SB 81	Passed third reading in Senate HB 104 referred to Transportation Committee, if favorable moves on Finance	CMO
SB 125 Public Meeting/Records Law Violations (Goolsby, Apodaca)	Makes it a Class 3 misdemeanor to deny access to public records for the purpose of inspection or to deny copies of public records	Referred to Committee on Judiciary 1	Communications City Clerk
SB 145 Reform Oversight of State Owned Vehicles (Hartsell) HB 61 Reform Oversight of State Owned Vehicles (Howard)	Reforms the management and oversight of state-owned motor vehicles as recommended by the Joint Legislative Program Evaluation Oversight Committee	Referred to Transportation Committee Favorable report from Finance Committee; referred to Appropriations Committee	Shared Services CATS
HB 193 Expand Uses for Mecklenburg County/Charlotte Local Taxes (W. Brawley, Samuelson, Carney and Earle)	Allows the City and Mecklenburg to use existing food and beverage tax monies to fund construction, renovation and maintenance needs associated with professional and amateur sports facilities	Received favorable report from Government Committee; referred to Finance Committee	CMO
HB 208 Ban the Box (Brandon, Pierce, R. Moore)	Prohibits an employer from inquiring whether an applicant for employment has been convicted of a criminal offense and assesses a civil penalty against those who do	Referred to Commerce and Job Development Committee	HR

Bill # Title (Sponsors)	Summary of Major Provisions & Impacts Upon City	Bill Status	Staff Resource(s)
SB 159 Require Certain General Appraisals (Tarte, Rucho) HB 200 Require Certain General Appraisals (W. Brawley, Cotham)	Adjusts reappraisals that resulted in property values that do not comply with State requirements	Referred to Finance Committee Referred to Government Committee	Finance
HB 160 Public Contracts/Illegal immigrants (Conrad, Cleveland, Mills and Szoka)	Prohibits state and local government contracts with contractors who employee illegal immigrants and requires contractors to verify and certify their employees' authorization to work in the US	Referred to Government Committee	E&PM
HB 227 Local Governments/ Vacant Housing (Brandon, Hardister, Faircloth, Collins)	Authorizes cities and counties the ability to petition superior court to appoint a receiver to rehabilitate, demolish or sell a vacant building, structure or dwelling in a case when an owner has failed to comply with an order to do so. It also charges the owner with a $100 administrative fee.	Referred to Government Committee	N&BS
SB 186 Notice Publication by counties and cities (Wade, Brock	Allows counties and cities to adopt an ordinance that allows them to publish public notices electronically in lieu of or in addition to printed notices via publications and advertisements.	Referred to Rules and Operations of the Senate Committee	Communications City Clerk
SB 275 Stormwater Management Fee Uses (Clodfelter)	Broadens permitted uses of stormwater fees to include programs to implement flood damage reduction techniques that result in improvements of private property if the owner consents to the improvements and stormwater system improvements are neither technically feasible nor cost effective	Referred to Finance Committee	E&PM
HB 248 Taxpayer Debt Information Act (Conrad, Fulghum, Cleveland, Bust)	Requires a disclosure of the amount of interest that would be incurred from the issuance of bonds to appear on the ballot	Referred to Finance Committee	Finance
Public Safety			
HB 17 Gun Permits / Restaurants & Confidentiality (Burr, Hager, Hollo, J. Bell)	Allows persons with concealed handgun permits to possess handguns in restaurants if allowed by establishment, and to preserve confidentiality of information concerning concealed handgun permits and pistol purchase permits	Withdrawn from Rules, Calendar and Operations and re-referred to Judiciary Subcommittee A	CMPD
HB 48 Operation of Mopeds (Shepard)	Requires mopeds to be licensed and insured.	Referred to Transportation Committee	CMPD

Bill # Title (Sponsors)	Summary of Major Provisions & Impacts Upon City	Bill Status	Staff Resource(s)
HB 49 Firearm in Locked Motor Vehicle / Parking Lot (Shepard)	Shares some similarities to 2011-2012 HB 111; Prohibits any business, commercial enterprise or employer from prohibiting the storage of firearms or ammunition when locked out of sight in motor vehicles; Allows for civil suits when a person is injured or killed against any business, commercial enterprise or employer who violates the locked out of sight standard; Provides for reinstatement, back pay, etc. of employees discharged from employment as result of violating company policies in conflict with this bill; Effective December 1, 2013 and applies only to violations committed on or after that date	Referred to Rules, Calendar and Operations of the House Committee	CMPD
SB 8 Towing Fines (Meredith, Clark and Jenkins)	Raises the minimum fine for violating provisions of local tow ordinances authorized by 20-219.2 from $100 to $150	Referred to Senate Finance Committee	CMPD
SB 17 Concealed Carry Permits (Bingham)	Invalidates in North Carolina concealed handgun permits issued by other states to nonresidents	Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee II	CMPD
SB 27 Public School Protection / Firearm Amendments (Bingham)	Allows individuals both certified by the NC Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission and designated by a local board of education or charter school board of directors to possess and carry firearms on school property to provide additional protection to those attending and working in public schools.	Referred to Rules and Operations of the Senate Committee	CMPD
SB 124 Shoot Gun From Inside (Brunstetter)	Makes it a Calls E felony to discharge a firearm from within an enclosure with the intent to do harm or incite fear	Referred to Judiciary Committee I	CMPD
SB 142 Towns Enforce Ordinances on Lake Norman (Tarte) HB 186 Towns Enforce Ordinances on Lake Norman (Jeter)	Allows the towns of Cornelius, Davidson, Huntersville, Mooresville and Troutman to enforce their town ordinances on the waters of Lake Norman	Referred to the State and Local Government Committee Received favorable report from Government; referred to Judiciary Subcommittee B	CMPD

Bill # Title (Sponsors)	Summary of Major Provisions & Impacts Upon City	Bill Status	Staff Resource(s)
SB 146 Private Schools/Firearms Amendments (Bingham, Brock, Hise)	Allows employees and volunteers at a private school to carry weapons on educational property when authorized by the school board of trustees or administrative director and allows a person to carry a concealed handgun during worship services at a location that serves as both a school and a place of worship	Referred to Judiciary Committee I	CMPD
SB 28 Gun Permit Information / No Publication (Bingham)	Increases the confidentiality of information regarding concealed handgun permits and pistol purchase permits. Other than the local permitting sheriff and the NC State Bureau of Investigation, it limits availability of information to other State and local law enforcement agencies	Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee II	CMPD
HB 59 Eliminate Safety Inspections (Howard) SB 194 Eliminate Safety Inspections (Hartsell)	Eliminates annual vehicle safety inspections as well as the requirement that window tinting inspections be conducted by a licensed safety inspector. Legislation stems from recommendations by the Joint Legislative Program Evaluation Oversight Committee	Referred to Transportation Committee Referred to Commerce Committee	CMPD
HB 63 Support Right to Bear Arms (Speciale)	A resolution expressing support of the Second Amendment and opposes any infringement by the federal government in keeping and bearing arms	Referred to Committee on Rules, Calendar and Operations of the House	CMPD
SB 190 Gun on Ed. Property/Stored in Locked Car (Cook, Brock)	Allows an adult, who has a concealed gun permit, to have a gun on the property of a school, community college or university, provided the gun is in a closed container in or attached to a person's vehicle and is removed only for defensive purposes	Referred to the Committee on Rules, Calendar and Operations of the Senate	CMPD
HB 299 Law Enforcement Officer Fairness Act (Jordan, Glazier and Avila)	Standardizes the dismissal of municipal law enforcement officers through the state. Requires departments to develop rules that define just cause. Ensures officers are eliminated for just cause and includes the establishment of review boards for disciplinary appeals.	Referred to Rules, Calendar and Operations of the House Committee	CMPD
Environment & Planning			

Bill # Title (Sponsors)	Summary of Major Provisions & Impacts Upon City	Bill Status	Staff Resource(s)
HB 94 Amend Environmental Laws (McElraft, Samuelson and McGrady) SB 112 Amend Environmental Laws (Jackson, Brock and Davis)	This is the omnibus environmental amendments bill considered every year Clarifies the process for civil penalties associated erosion and sedimentation violations	Referred to the Environment Committee Referred to Committee on Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources	E&PM CMUD
SB 105 Clarify Political Sign Ordinance Authority (Tillman)	Amends legislation passed in 2011 by allowing municipalities to regulate and prohibit placement of political signs along state highways that fall within a municipality's corporate limits	Referred to Transportation Committee	N&BS
SB 139 Zoning/Design and Aesthetic Controls (Clodfelter, Gunn and Tarte) HB 150 Zoning/Design and Aesthetic Controls (W. Brawley, Moffitt and Jordan)	Limits the application of design building standards at the county and municipal level to the following circumstances only: • structures located in local historic districts • structures located in areas listed on the National Registry of Historic Places • structures located in local, state or national historic landmarks • when the standards are related to safety code requirements • for applications for manufactured or modular housing • as a condition of participation in the National Flood Insurance Program	Referred to Commerce Committee Received favorable report from Regulatory Reform Subcommittee on Local Government	Planning E&PM
SB 192 Allow ROW Usage in Central Business Districts (Hunt, Daniel, Harrington) HB 192 (Shepard, Hamilton, Torbett Ross)	Permits local governments to enact sidewalk dining ordinances for use of State owned right of way.	Referred to State and Local Government Committee Referred to Commerce and Job Development Committee	CDOT

Bill # Title (Sponsors)	Summary of Major Provisions & Impacts Upon City	Bill Status	Staff Resource(s)
SB108 Building Inspections/Local Consistency (Apodaca, Hunt, Ford) H120 Building Codes: Local Consistency/Exempt Cable (Brawley, Cotham, Arp)	Local governments must seek approval from the NC Building Code Council before requiring routine and regular inspections with requirements above the NC Building Code	Referred to Commerce Committee Passed third reading in House, Referred to Senate Commerce Committee	E&PM CMU
HB 264 Justice for Rural Citizens Act (Pittman, Ford, Moffit, Hardister)	Prohibits municipalities from enacting extraterritorial jurisdiction beyond their corporate limits	Referred to Government Committee	Planning
Infrastructure			
HB 86 Restore Wallace to Wilmington Railroad (Hamilton, Shepard, R. Moore and Catlin)	Requires the NCDOT to seek funding for two economic development projects. The first to restore the rail connection from Wallace to Castle Hayne and another project to improve rail access to the NC State Port at Wilmington	Referred to Transportation Committee	CATS
SB 9 Utility / Design / Survey Location Services (Meredith, Clark)	Requires Utility owners to locate and describe underground utilities upon written or oral request from a person who is responsible for designing or surveying underground facilities or requires a general description and location of existing underground facilities in an area; Not the bill that rewrites the statewide underground utility damage prevention statute	Received favorable report from Senate Commerce Committee	CDOT CMUD
SB 29 NCRR Reporting (Hartsell) HB 174 NCRR Reporting (Howard)	Strengthens oversight, annual reporting and strategic planning by the NC Railroad Company. Also requires: • A one-time cash dividend of the NC Railroad to the General Fund • An annual cash dividend of the NC Railroad to the General Fund • Transfer of low-income non-corridor properties from the NC Railroad to the State as recommended by the joint legislative program evaluation oversight committee.	Referred to Program Evaluation Referred to Finance Committee	CATS

Bill # Title (Sponsors)	Summary of Major Provisions & Impacts Upon City	Bill Status	Staff Resource(s)
SB 102 Public Infrastructure Oversight Commission (Hartsell)	Establishes a 24-member Joint Legislative Public Infrastructure Oversight Commission to examine and make recommendations to promote coordinated local, regional and state planning and investment in public infrastructure	Referred to Senate Rules and Operations Committee	CMO
SB 103 Amend Petition and Method for Critical Assessments (Hartsell)	Amends the law related to special assessments for critical infrastructure in cities and counties. Specifies the proportionate share of a vote an owner of property with multiple owners receives when determining whether a majority of real property owners in assessed area have petitioned the municipality.	Referred to Senate Finance Committee	CATS
HB 157 Limit Use of Highway Fund Credit Balance (Jeter, B. Brown, Dobson, Szoka)	Ensures unreserved credit balance in the Highway Fund is used for road-related uses only	Referred to Transportation Committee	CDOT
HB 195 Cornelius/Extend Use of Design Build (Jeter)	Extends the Town of Cornelius' authority to use design build construction from 2013 to 2016. In 2011 legislation, Cornelius received the authority to undertake three design build projects over two years.	Received favorable report from to Government Committee; referred to Regulatory Reform	CMO
Economic Development			
SB 19 Building Contracts / Local Business Participation (Bingham, Clark and Jenkins)	Requires counties and cities to require bidders on public building contracts to demonstrate that they have made good faith efforts to recruit participation by local businesses in the contracts; Also includes provisions that contracts awarded under this section shall be without regard to race, color, creed, age, sex or handicap potentially impacting MWBE programs	Referred to Senate Commerce Committee	N&BS
SB 232 Public Contracts/Local Business Preference (Soucek) HB 284 Local Contracts/Local Bidder Preference (Jordan)	Allow counties and cities to give preference to local bidders when contracting for construction, repair work or purchases of apparatus, equipment and supplies paid for by public money	Referred to Rules and Operations Committee Referred to Government Committee	Shared Services

Bill # Title (Sponsors)	Summary of Major Provisions & Impacts Upon City	Bill Status	Staff Resource(s)
HB 55 Reform Workforce Development (Howard) SB 147 Reform Workforce Development (Hartsell)	Resolution to realign local workforce development areas with boundaries of councils of governments as recommended by the Joint Legislative Program Evaluation Oversight Committee. It would: • Reduce number of workforce development areas • Increase number of counties workforce development areas would cover	Referred to House Commerce and Job Development Committee Filed	N&BS
HB 69 Opportunity Advancement Zones (Torbett)	Provides tier one tax treatment of employers located within newly created opportunity advancement zones based on the following criteria: • 40% of households with incomes below $25K and exceeds the federal employment rate by 2% • 33% of households with incomes below $25K and exceeds the federal employment rate by 4% • 25% of households with incomes below $25K and exceeds the federal employment rate by 6%	Referred to House Commerce and Job Development Committee	N&BS