



North Carolina Women United

Women's Advocacy Day

June 18, 2008

*Priorities for 2008 Women's Advocacy Day**

Access to Health Care

Adult Care Homes Star Rating Authorization. Create an award system for adult care homes that achieve high ratings.

Home & Community Care Block Grant Funds: S1643/H2184. Increase funding for the Home and Community Care Block Grant to reduce the waiting list for those elderly persons needing services in order to stay in their homes.

Civic Participation & Equality

School Violence Prevention: H1366. Require that school systems adopt strong policies against bullying and harassment.

Economic Self-Sufficiency

Paid Sick Days: HJR 2670/SJR 2110. Establish paid sick leave for employees.

Housing Trust Fund. Provide funding for the Housing Trust Fund in the amount of \$20 million for affordable housing.

Rewarding Work Tax Credit. Increase NC's state refundable Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) for low income workers to 5%. Legislation passed in 2007 to piggyback on the federal EITC at a rate of 3.5%.

Violence Against Women

DV Orders/Repeat Violators: H44. Strengthen the enforcement of domestic violence protective orders by reducing the number of prior convictions required from 3 to 1 to charge an offender with a Class H felony for violation of a protective order.

DV Appropriations: S31/H43. Increase state funding by \$2 million for domestic violence programs funded by the CFW/DVC; provide for matching grant funds for the construction of dv shelters; fund supervised visitation and exchange centers; and reinstate TANF prevention funds.

**These items are from the 2007 Women's Legislative Agenda and are eligible in the 2008 short session.*

Priorities for Future Legislation Sessions**

Access to Health Care

Modify School Health Education Program. Make honest, realistic sex education part of the core curriculum for NC Public Schools, consisting of age-appropriate, medically accurate health education including both STD and pregnancy prevention.

Civic Participation & Equality

Voter-Owned Elections. Expand the current Voter-Owned Public Financing program. Legislation passed in 2007 for a pilot financing program to include 3 members of the Council of State.

Non-Discrimination in State Employment. Protect state employees from discrimination based on sexual orientation.

*****These items are from the 2007 Women's Legislative Agenda and did not pass. We anticipate that these items will remain priorities of the Women's Legislative Agenda in future legislative sessions.***



NC Women United (NCWU) is a coalition of organizations and individuals committed to advancing public policies that support the full economic, legal and social equality of women. NCWU works to achieve its mission through legislative advocacy, community organizing, and grassroots activism. Priorities within each issue area have been identified by NCWU's member organizations and by the 2007 NC Women's Legislative Agenda, an outgrowth of NCWU's biennial local Women's Agenda Assemblies. Please visit www.ncwu.org for more information.

Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of NC • American Association of University Women of NC • Buncombe County Women's Commission • Business and Professional Women of NC • Carteret County Women's Resource Center • Democracy North Carolina • Equality NC • General Federation of Woman's Clubs of NC • Interact • Ipas • League of Women Voters of NC • NARAL Pro-Choice North Carolina • National Association of Social Workers NC Chapter • NC Association of Women Attorneys • NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence • NC Coalition Against Sexual Assault • NC Justice Center • NC National Organization for Women • Onslow County Council for Women • Planned Parenthood Health Systems • Planned Parenthood of Central North Carolina • Triangle Older Women's League • Triangle MomsRising • The Women's Center [Triangle/Chapel Hill] • Women's Forum of NC • Women's Resource Center in Alamance County • Women's Resource Center – Hickory