

# Andy Dulin: House District 104

## Mecklenburg County

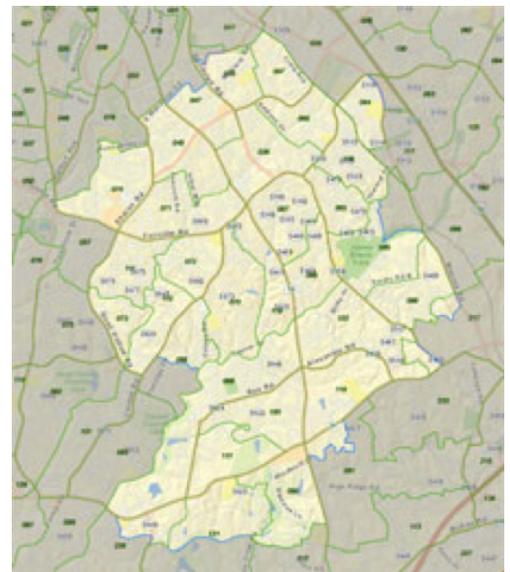
"Therein lies the Andy Dulin Factor, [...] nobody can do that as well as I can. It's not cocky. It's confident." –Andy Dulin (Charlotte Observer, 4/9/12)

In this Real Facts Legislator Profile, we focus on Rep. Andy Dulin, the Republican representative from District 104. Dulin was elected to the seat in 2016 and is currently serving his first full term. Before serving in the NC House, Dulin tried and failed at least three times to enter the world of politics outside the Charlotte City Council. He ran for the Mecklenburg County Commission in 2004, ran for NC Senate in the 2008 primary, and Congress in 2012. Dulin is an out-of-touch member of Charlotte's elite, putting his own advancement above the will of constituents and pushing the needs of corporations over students and teachers. Additionally, Dulin supported a measure that would make nondiscrimination ordinances subject to referendum less than a year after HB2 cost Charlotte millions.

Rep. Andy Dulin



House District 104



### Summary

- *Dulin supported a measure to put civil rights on the ballot by making nondiscrimination ordinances subject to referendum even though HB2 cost North Carolina upwards of \$630 million.*
  - *Dulin was a vocal opponent of a same-sex benefit package considered by the Charlotte City Council and sponsored an HB2 compromise that would have put "the Civil Rights Act up for a popular vote."*
  - *HB2 cost North Carolina between \$450 million and \$630 million and cost Charlotte upwards of \$100 million*
- *Dulin has put his own advancement above the will of his constituents as an out-of-touch member of Charlotte's elite class, and supported the 2017 budget, failing NC students and teachers.*
  - *Dulin criticized a 2012 tax proposal to fund capital projects because it "disproportionately cares for the less-wealthy regions in the center city, while creating a void of projects in the city's most affluent neighborhoods."*
  - *NC Republicans again failed teachers, students with their 2017 budget which spends 6.7 percent less than pre-recession levels per student.*

**Dulin opposed a benefits package for same-sex couples in Charlotte, NC and co-sponsored legislation that would pre-empt local bathroom ordinances and make anti-discrimination measures subject to referendum, despite HB2's million-dollar cost to the state and Charlotte**

**Dulin opposed a benefits package for same-sex couples, earning him the title of “worst member of local government”**

**Some members of the Charlotte City Council wanted to move forward with approving same-sex benefits for employees despite Amendment One.** “Some Charlotte City Council members said they are prepared next month to approve offering same-sex benefits for employees, despite questions whether it would be legal in the wake of Tuesday's passage of Amendment One. On Wednesday, Charlotte City Manager Curt Walton recommended the city offer for the first time benefits to same-sex partners. Walton said the city was pursuing the change so the city would be competitive with the private sector in attracting and retaining employees. But during Wednesday's budget meeting, Democrat Michael Barnes asked whether the city should move forward, given the questions about what will be legal under Amendment One.” (Charlotte Observer, 5/11/12)

**Dulin asked for the same-sex benefits package to be removed from the overall budget and said he would vote against it.** “Republicans Andy Dulin and Warren Cooksey said they will ask for the same-sex benefits package to be removed from the overall budget vote and have a separate vote taken. Both said they would vote against it. “I'm a no vote, and have been for the last seven years,” Dulin said.” (Charlotte Observer, 5/11/12)

**Dulin: “I'm a no vote, and have been for the last seven years.”** Republicans Andy Dulin and Warren Cooksey said they will ask for the same-sex benefits package to be removed from the overall budget vote and have a separate vote taken. Both said they would vote against it. “I'm a no vote, and have been for the last seven years,” Dulin said.” (Charlotte Observer, 5/11/12)

**Creative Loafing dubbed Dulin the “worst member of local government” in 2012, citing his opposition to the same-sex benefits package considered by the City Council.** “WORST MEMBER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT. Andy Dulin. Republican City Councilman Andy Dulin left a sour taste in our mouths when he staunchly opposed the same-sex benefits package the council considered passing before Amendment One. But you can hardly blame him; he was just sticking to his party's line. “I'm a no vote, and have been for the last seven years,” Dulin told the Charlotte Observer. So why then was he one of the few GOP congressional candidates to not sign a no-tax increase pledge? His goofy attitude reminds us too much of George W.'s, and his cafeteria Republicanism makes his party look bad.” (Creative Loafing, 10/10/12)

**Dulin worked alongside Rep. McGrady and Bradford to craft an HB2 compromise that would have made nondiscrimination policies subject to referendum, “putting the Civil Rights Act to a popular vote”**

**Dulin co-sponsored legislation to repeal HB2 while pre-empting local bathroom ordinances and making local anti-discrimination measures subject to a public referendum.** “Bradford is among the co-sponsors of HB186, a bill that would repeal HB2 while pre-empting local bathroom ordinances and making local anti-discrimination measures subject to a public referendum. Last week Bradford, along with Charlotte Republican Rep. Andy Dulin, helped bring business leaders from Mecklenburg County and across the state to the General Assembly in a show of support for the idea of a compromise. “John has taken the ball and run with it,” said Bill Russell, president Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce. Gary Salamido, a vice president of the N.C. Chamber, said it helps that Bradford, who owns a property management company, comes from the business world. “He's been a leader on a lot of issues,” he said. “He's not afraid to handle the tough ones.” (Charlotte Observer, 3/8/17)

**The bill would have required 30 days' notice before local ordinances can be decided with a 90-day period before it can take effect and a referendum on the ordinance if 10% of registered voters petition to override the ordinance.** "On Tuesday, Mecklenburg Republicans John Bradford and **Andy Dulin** hosted a press conference at the Legislative Building in Raleigh. Bradford and Dulin are among the co-sponsors of a bill introduced last week that would repeal HB2 while also requiring 30 days' notice before a local government can decide on local ordinances, followed by a 90-day period before it takes effect. During those 90 days, a referendum on an ordinance would be held if 10% of the number of registered voters in the most recent municipal election petition to override the ordinance." (Charlotte Business Journal, 2/28/17)

**H186 was criticized by gay rights groups as well as NC Values Coalition, the conservative group that supported HB2.** "The bill comes after Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper proposed his own compromise, one brushed aside from Republicans who control the General Assembly. But HB186, co-sponsored by Rep. Chuck McGrady, a Hendersonville Republican and one of the GOP's House leaders, is believed to have more support, even though it's been criticized by gay rights groups and the N.C. Values Coalition, a conservative group that supports HB2." (Charlotte Business Journal, 2/28/17)

**Gov. Cooper compared the measure to "putting the Civil Rights Act to a popular vote in cities in the South during the 1960s"**

**Gov. Cooper said the call for referenda on local ordinances would be like "putting the Civil Rights Act to a popular vote in cities in the South during the 1960s."** "Cooper responded to McGrady's bill on Sunday in a post on Medium by saying he is willing to work with lawmakers to repeal HB2, but also insisted that allowing for referenda on local LGBT ordinances would be damaging and continue to hurt the state's national reputation. "It would be like putting the Civil Rights Act to a popular vote in cities in the South during the 1960s," Cooper said of the referendum provision. "Except today, it would come with the perils of modern campaigns. Which is my second concern. Imagine the endless campaigning - months of one side demonizing the other about whether LGBT citizens have rights. Toxic 30-second TV ads. Nasty mail filling up your mailbox. And North Carolina is still in the national news for all the wrong reasons." (Charlotte Business Journal, 2/28/17)

**It is estimated that HB2 cost NC between \$450 million and \$630 million**

**It's estimated that HB2 will cost North Carolina more than \$3.76 billion in lost business over a dozen years.** "The Associated Press used dozens of interviews and multiple public records requests to determine that North Carolina's "bathroom bill" will cost the state more than \$3.76 billion in lost business over a dozen years." (Associated Press, [3/27/17](#))

**According to estimates, HB2 cost North Carolina between \$450 million and \$630 million.** "We ruled that claim Mostly False. Our research, plus interviews with economists and analysis of other studies, has shown HB2 probably cost the state between \$450 million and \$630 million. Others have cited a \$500 million loss. The law has also cost North Carolina a minimum of 1,400 jobs." (PolitiFact, [3/7/17](#))

**Due to HB2, the NBA pulled the 2017 All-Star game from Charlotte, costing the city upward of \$100 million.** "But that wasn't even the biggest financial hit North Carolina took from a sports organization. In July, the NBA's concerns with the law spurred the league to move its 2017 All-Star Game from Charlotte to New Orleans. The loss of the marquee weekend means Charlotte will miss out on upward of \$100 million, according to the Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority, using estimates from previous All-Star games in similarly sized markets." (Business Insider, [9/21/16](#))

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**Dulin is an out-of-touch member of Charlotte's elite, putting his own advancement above the will of constituents and pushing the needs of corporations over students and teachers.**

**Dulin criticized a 2012 tax proposal to fund capital projects because it "disproportionately cares for the less-wealthy regions in the center city, while creating a void of projects in the city's most affluent neighborhoods."**

**Dulin criticized City Manager's tax proposal on the basis that it "disproportionately cares for the less-wealthy regions in the center city, while creating a void of projects in the city's most affluent neighborhoods."** "City Manager Curt Walton's recently proposed 9 percent city property-tax increase, which would fund a nearly \$1 billion capital plan through 2020, has brought the issue back to the forefront of political talk south of uptown. South Charlotte's District 7 City Council Representative Warren Cooksey and District 6 Representative Andy Dulin have openly criticized Walton's tax proposal. They argue that the city disproportionately cares for the less-wealthy regions in the center city, while creating a void of projects in the city's most affluent neighborhoods, where the majority of the tax base is." (Charlotte Observer, 4/6/12)

**Dulin raised concerns with the "focus on the city's more struggling neighborhoods."** "The focus on the city's more struggling neighborhoods has raised concerns among at least one council member, Republican Andy Dulin, who represents south Charlotte. During last week's meeting, Dulin asked whether south Charlotte -- which he said pays much of the city's property tax bill - would get a fair deal." (Charlotte Observer, 4/6/12)

**Dulin: "Are we going ... to help the people paying the bills?"** "At the council's budget retreat, Republican Councilman Andy Dulin questioned the amount of money available for the projects outlined by Walton. Combined with recent requests such as \$11 million for a new baseball stadium, city spending capacity is limited, he said. Dulin also wondered aloud at the paucity of investment in the neighborhoods that account for much of the city revenue. "Are we going ... to help the people paying the bills?" That prompted a retort from Democrat Claire Fallon, who said, "If one part of the boat leaks, the whole boat leaks." (Charlotte Business Journal, 3/23/12)

**NC Republicans again failed teachers, students with their 2017 budget which spends 6.7 percent less than pre-recession levels per student.**

- **Note:** Rep. Dulin voted for the budget on [6/2/17](#), voted for the conference report on [6/22/17](#), and voted to override the Governor's veto on [6/28/17](#).

**Under the Republican budget, starting teachers will receive little to no raise.** "Most public school teachers will receive a pay hike of 9.6 percent over the next two years, which is a significant jump. However, starting teachers and our most experienced teachers receive little or no raises. Total education spending came in about 30% less than Gov. Cooper's proposed spending. (\$755m to \$520m) and per pupil spending is still 6.7% below pre-Recession level. In the spring of 2016, Senator Phil Berger unveiled a plan to bring average teacher pay to \$54,224 in the 17-18 school year. This budget fails to meet Senator Berger's promise." (Stronger NC, [6/26/17](#))

**Gov. Cooper's proposed budget would have increased education spending by \$755 million.** "Cooper increased education spending in the coming year by \$755 million; the House and Senate weakly approved half that much." (News & Observer, Editorial, [6/3/17](#))

**The Republican budget spent 30 percent less on education than the Governor's proposed budget.** "Most public school teachers will receive a pay hike of 9.6 percent over the next two years, which is a significant jump. However, starting teachers and our most experienced teachers receive little or no raises. Total education spending came in about 30% less than Gov. Cooper's proposed spending.

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**Teacher pay still almost \$10K less than the national average**

**North Carolina’s average teacher salary for 2017 is \$9,543 less than the national average.** (NEA Rankings & Estimates, [2016-17](#))

**Headline: “Average teacher pay in NC falls short of \$50,000 mark.”** “Average teacher pay in North Carolina this school year falls short of the \$50,000 mark touted by state lawmakers and former Gov. Pat McCrory last fall, according to data released this week by the Department of Public Instruction. The actual figure is \$49,837, which is hardly a huge miss at less than \$200 off the mark, but critics say that gap points to deeper problems with how state and local governments pay educators.” (WRAL, [2/3/17](#))

2015 Average Salary of Teachers	2015 Rank	2016 Average Salary of Teachers	2016 Rank	2017 Estimated Average Salary of Teachers	2017 Estimated Rank
\$47,497	40	\$47,941	41	\$49,407	36

(NEA Rankings & Estimates, [2016-17](#))

**North Carolina ranked 47th in teacher job opportunity and competition, 44<sup>th</sup> state overall for teachers.** Job opportunity and competition ranking was based on average starting salary, media annual salary, average teacher pensions, average teacher demand, public school enrollment growth and 10-year change in teacher salaries. (WalletHub, [9/26/2016](#))

**North Carolina projected to spend less per student in 2017 than 2016**

**Dropped ranking from 42 to 43 from 2016 to 2017**

**North Carolina was ranked 42<sup>nd</sup> in per pupil spending in 2016.** (NEA Rankings & Estimates, [2016-17](#))

**North Carolina was projected to rank 43<sup>rd</sup> in per pupil spending in 2017.** (NEA Rankings & Estimates, [2016-17](#))

**North Carolina decreased per pupil spending from 2016 to 2017**

- **NOTE:** NEA rankings include federal funding in per pupil spending totals, chart below breaks down per pupil expenditure by government entity.

**North Carolina’s per pupil spending in fall enrollment in 2016 was \$8,887.56.** (NC Public Schools, accessed, [5/17/2017](#))

**North Carolina’s per pupil spending in fall enrollment projected for 2017 was \$8,940.** (NEA Rankings & Estimates, [2016-17](#))

**North Carolina only ahead of Mississippi in the Southeast in per pupil spending**

North Carolina only beats Mississippi for per pupil spending in the Southeast. (NEA Rankings & Estimates, 2016-17)

**North Carolina spent \$3,044 less than national average per student**

North Carolina's per pupil spending in fall enrollment projected for 2017 was \$8,940. (NEA Rankings & Estimates, 2016-17)

The US Average per pupil spending in fall enrollment projected for 2017 was \$11,984. (NEA Rankings & Estimates, 2016-17)

<b>N.C. Per Pupil Expenditures</b>				
<b>School Year</b>	<b>Local</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Total</b>
2015-2016	2,157	5,724.21	1,005.83	8,887.56
2014-2015	2,134.82	5,638.39	1,011.13	8,784.34
2013-2014	2,095.47	5,390.12	991.41	8,477
2012-2013	2,084.55	5,399.64	1,030.02	8,514.21

(NC Public Schools, accessed, 5/17/2017)

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