



North Carolina Women United

Legislative Report Card for 2007

Released March 17, 2008

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. This is a Report Card on the 2007 session of the NC General Assembly. The Legislative Report Card for 2007 reflects legislative priorities that are key to promoting women's equality. These priorities 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. The "NCWU Response" indicator reflects NCWU's position on the legislative and/or budget status of each legislative item. For more information, visit www.ncwu.org.

Access to Health Care	Legislative Status	Budget Status	NCWU Response
Modify School Health Education Program -Makes honest, realistic sex education part of the core curriculum for North Carolina Public Schools, consisting of age-appropriate, medically accurate health education including both STD and pregnancy prevention. (H879/S1182)	Not passed	N/A	↓
Adult Care Homes Star Rating Authorization/Funds -Rating certification for adult care homes is included in another bill, S56 "Penalty Review/Long Term Care Changes." (H248/S752)	Passed	N/A	↑
Home & Community Care Block Grant Funds -Increase Home and Community Care Block Grant Funds. Although the bill asked for \$5 million in additional funding to draw down a waiting list of about 11,000 persons, an increase of only \$536,000 was provided in the budget bill*. (H98/S59)	N/A	Minimally Funded	↓

Civic Participation & Equality	Legislative Status	Budget Status	NCWU Response
Voter-Owned Elections Pilot for Council of State -Expand the current Voter-Owned Public Financing program to include three members of the Council of State. (H1517)	Passed	N/A	↑
Registration and Voting at One-Stop Sites -Allows a person who misses the cut-off for registration to go to a One-Stop voting site, show proper ID, register and vote on the same day. (H91)	Passed	N/A	↑
School Violence Prevention -Requires school systems to adopt strong policies against bullying and harassment. (H1366)	Pending	N/A	Pending
Non-Discrimination in State Employment -Protects state employees from discrimination based on sexual orientation. (H1789/S1534)	Not Passed	N/A	↓

Economic Self-Sufficiency	Legislative Status	Budget Status	NCWU Response
Establish Paid Sick Days -Paid sick leave for all employees. (H1711)	Pending	N/A	Pending
Provide Unpaid Sick Days -Unpaid sick leave for all employees. (S1092)	Not Passed	N/A	↓
Housing Trust Fund Appropriation -Increase the Housing Trust Fund by \$50 million for affordable housing. An additional \$5 million in recurring funds was provided in the budget bill* for the annual appropriation for the Housing Finance Agency's Trust Fund. (H182/S459)	Pending	Partially Funded	↑
Rewarding Work Tax Credit - A refundable Earned Income Tax Credit for low-income workers was passed in the budget bill* to piggyback on the federal EITC at a rate of 3.5%. (H51/S7)	Passed	N/A	↑

Violence Against Women	Legislative Status	Budget Status	NCWU Response
Compassionate Care for Victims of Sexual Assault -Ensures that survivors of sexual assault receive emergency contraception on-site in hospital emergency departments. (H961/S968)	Not Passed	N/A	↓
DV Orders/Repeat Violators -Strengthens the enforcement of domestic violence protective orders by reducing the number of prior convictions required from three prior convictions to one prior conviction to charge offenders with a Class H felony. (H44)	Pending	N/A	Pending
VAWA 2005 Compliance -Brings NC into compliance with the Violence Against Women Act of 2005 to prevent loss of federal funding; ensures that criminal justice agencies may not require polygraph examinations of victims of sexual assault; and mandates that the Administrative Office of the Courts develop a form that notifies criminal defendants of federal firearm laws. (H1810)	Passed	N/A	↑
Violate Order/Possess Deadly Weapon -Creates a Class H felony for violation of a domestic violence protective order while armed with a deadly weapon. (H47)	Passed	N/A	↑
DV Victims/Add Protections -Amends the name-change statute so that a public posting is not required for victims of domestic violence, sexual offense, or stalking who provide appropriate documentation; amends the Crime Victims' Rights Act so that a violation of a domestic violence protective order is included as a "crime" for the purposes of the Act. (S30)	Passed	N/A	↑
Domestic Violence Appropriations -Increases state funding by \$2 million for domestic violence programs funded by the Council for Women/Domestic Violence Commission; reinstates TANF funding in the amount of \$1 million to support local domestic violence prevention and awareness initiatives; provides for matching grant funds for the construction of domestic violence shelters in the amount of \$2 million; and appropriates \$2 million to fund supervised visitation and exchange centers. (H43/S31)	N/A	Pending	Pending

NCWU response is:  **positive**  **negative**

*Items included in the budget bill can be found in HB 1473. To see the text of a bill or to find the vote history for a bill, please visit www.ncleg.net. For more information on the Women's Legislative Agenda and to view past Report Cards, please visit www.ncwu.org.