



**RESOLUTION TITLE: GASTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR THE 2025 SESSION OF THE NORTH
CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

WHEREAS, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners is committed to strengthening and diversifying Gaston County's economy, making Gaston County a top choice of business and industry expansion and encouraging the growth of safe and healthy communities; and,

WHEREAS, job creation, economic development, education, workforce development, healthy communities, public safety, and quality of life are adopted priorities of the Commission and are important guiding principles for future policy decisions; and,

WHEREAS, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners recognizes that State policies, programs, and investments can have a significant influence on local policy-making; and,

WHEREAS, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners has identified numerous legislative priorities for consideration and support during the 2025 General Assembly Session in the areas of transportation, economic development, water and sewer infrastructure, public safety, health and human services, recreation and culture, and administrative capital needs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners respectfully requests the Gaston County Delegation to the North Carolina General Assembly to support Gaston County's 2025 Legislative Priorities attached hereto as Exhibit A.

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows:

NO.	DATE	M1	M2	JBailey	CBrown	CCLoninger	AFrale	BHovis	TKeigher	SShehan	Vote
2025-037	01/28/2025	BH	AF	A	A	AB	A	A	A	A	U

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EXHIBIT A



GASTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR THE 2025 SESSION OF THE NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Preserve County Tax & Finance

- Protect Gaston County from unfunded mandates and maintain local revenue sources.
- Provide state compensation for when taxable property is removed from the ad valorem tax base by the state.
- Assist NCACC with the repeal of NCGS 105-275 (45), which mandates the county must exclude 80% of the appraised value of a solar energy electric system from property taxation.
- Assist NCACC to gain an opportunity to tailor the use of any newly enacted article 43 transit tax for all types of transportation expenditures.
- Support flexibility for use of all or a percentage of the occupancy tax.

Economic Development

- Continue the state's infrastructure investment funding, economic development grant programs and support of county EDC services.
- Prioritize economic development funding for NCs' most distressed 80 counties, Tier 1 and Tier 2 designations.
- Support for improvement to existing sites and site acquisition as well as assistance in development funding.
- Allow DOC to establish and offer reasonable flexibility and consideration of JDIG fulfillment.
- ***Continue support of incentive programs including but not limited to:***
 - 1) NC's Golden Leaf Foundation
 - 2) Continued funding of JDIG (Job Development Incentive Grants)
 - 3) One NC Fund
 - 4) Community College Workforce Development Partnerships including:
 - A) Strengthen educational offerings and partnerships with industry.
 - B) Strengthen Gaston College/High School partnerships including Career & College Promise.

Transportation

- Support modernizing transportation funding by advocating for stable and increased revenue sources for highways, rail and port infrastructure.
- Develop and fund a comprehensive transportation plan that addresses multi-modal regional needs by ensuring a diverse range of transportation options to meet the needs of our citizens.

Support local, transportation funding priorities which include but not limited to:

- Increased funding for maintenance of current highways
- Widening of 1-85
- Crossings over Catawba River (South Fork Crossing/Catawba Crossing)

Infrastructure Development

- Continued broadband infrastructure grants.
- Continued support for water and sewer expansion for rural communities.
- Support funding for Travel & Tourism, specific to Gaston County's Crowder's Mountain State Park and Mountain Island Educational State Forest.

Education

- Support funding for K-12 Educational Facilities.
- Continued growth of the ADM Student Funding.
- Support of Community Colleges and Gaston College's efforts and partnership in workforce training.
- Restore the statutory appropriations for funds from the NC Lottery.
- School Capital appropriations to meet needs for additional classroom space and maintenance of buildings.

Health/Human Services

- Utilize mental health funding to include a mental health support network for first responders.



Gaston County

Gaston County
Board of Commissioners
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Board of Commissioners

Board Action

File #: 25-021

Board of Commissioners - Legislative Request: Approval of the Gaston County Legislative Agenda for the 2025 Session of the North Carolina General Assembly

STAFF CONTACT

Donna S. Buff - Clerk to the Board - 704-866-3196

BACKGROUND

The Gaston County Board of Commissioners (BOC) has identified numerous legislative priorities for the 2025 General Assembly Session. The 2025 Legislative Priorities, to be adopted at the January 28, 2025 BOC Regular Meeting, will be forwarded to the Gaston County Delegation for consideration and support.

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution of Support; Exhibit A - Draft Legislative Agenda

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A=AYE, N=NAY, AB=ABSENT, ABS=ABSTAIN, U=UNANIMOUS