U.S. SENATE · NORTH CAROLINA · 2026

CONTRACT WITH WORKING NORTH CAROLINIANS

WHERE THE CANDIDATES STAND

The solution is not Republican versus Democrat or Right versus left. It's bottom versus top. We can bring down costs, make work pay, and end the corruption in Washington, DC.

THE ISSUE	ROY COOPER (D)	MICHAEL WHATLEY (R)
Lower prescription drug prices	✔ Expand Medicare drug price negotiation; cap out-of-pocket costs.[1]	✕ Pushed a 2025 law delaying Medicare negotiation on some top drugs.[2]
Make health care affordable	✔ Doctors, not insurers, decide care. Restore ACA tax credits.[1]	✕ Called the 2025 Medicaid cuts "a huge win".[3]
Lower electric bills	✔ Opposes Duke Energy's rate hike request.[4]	✕ Lobbied for Duke rate hikes; took Duke PAC money.[5]
Ban stock trading by Congress	✔ Supports a ban.[6]	✔ Supports a ban.[6]
Ban ex-lawmakers from lobbying	✔ Supports a ban; pledges not to lobby.[7]	? No answer. Former oil and utility lobbyist.[7,8]

EARLY VOTING · OCT. 15–31

REGISTER AND VOTE SAME DAY · ELECTION DAY TUE., NOV. 3

KNOW THE FACTS. THEN DECIDE.

1. Cooper campaign plans: roycooper.com/costless
2. *News & Observer*, Sept. 2025; *Wall Street Journal*, Aug. 4, 2025
3. North Carolina Democratic Party, Dec. 1, 2025
4. Axios Raleigh, June 1, 2026
5. *Carolina Public Press*, May 2026; *Cardinal & Pine*, 2026
6. WSOC-TV; *Washington Examiner* (stock trading ban)
7. *Spectrum News*, May 22, 2026
8. *Spectrum News*, Aug. 14, 2026

Full list with links: unitehere.org/ncsources

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CONTRACT WITH WORKING NORTH CAROLINIANS

This Contract wasn't written by politicians. For more than a year, UNITE HERE, CWA, UAW, the North Carolina AFL-CIO and community allies listened to union and nonunion workers across the state, regardless of party, about their economic priorities. These twelve points are what working North Carolinians told us.

BRING DOWN COSTS

1. Lower drug prices. Expand government negotiations so drug companies give working people a fair deal.

2. Make health care affordable. Stop unfair delays and denials, and let anyone buy into a public plan at a fair price.

3. Relief from high gas prices. Tax oil companies' crisis profits and return the money to working people.

4. Homes families can afford. Build quality, union-made affordable homes and rentals.

5. Support working parents. Paid sick days, family and medical leave, and a cap on the cost of child care.

MAKE WORK PAY

6. Respect working people. Make it easier to form unions, and make sure workers get every penny they're owed.

7. Strengthen Social Security. Raise benefits to keep up with costs, and have millionaires pay in on all their income.

8. Raise wages. A minimum wage of at least $17 an hour, tied to inflation, with no sub-minimum wage for tipped and farm workers.

9. Working people decide the AI future. No robots setting your pay, hiring and firing you, or monitoring your work.

END CORRUPTION

10. Stop Washington corruption. Ban politicians and their families from trading stocks and from ever lobbying after leaving office.

11. Power back to working families. Stop corporations and super-rich donors from secretly flooding elections with cash.

12. Make the wealthy pay their fair share. So we can protect Social Security and Medicare and invest in schools, child care and senior care.

IT'S TIME TO PUT NORTH CAROLINA'S WORKING FAMILIES FIRST.

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