

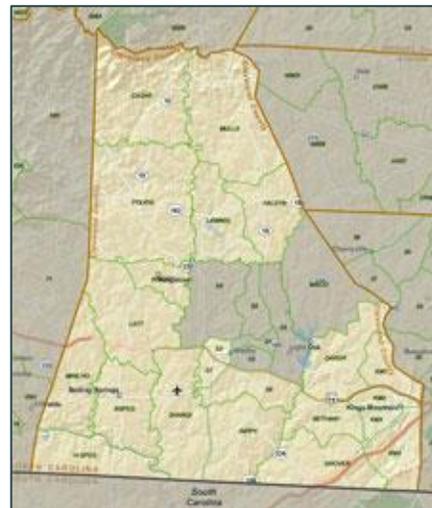
Tim Moore: House District 111

Cleveland County

“Cleveland County is a very rural county, and I saw a lot of the challenges that we had. The textile industry had declined. I saw a lot of people who had lost their jobs.” – [Tim Moore](#)

In the second in a series of Real Facts NC reports examining key North Carolina legislators, we look at the Speaker of the House, Tim Moore. Moore has represented Cleveland County since 2003 and became Speaker of the House in 2015. After being named Speaker, Moore [said](#), “I am committed to improving North Carolina through greater economic opportunity, less burdensome regulations and a new vision for educating and equipping our students.” However, Moore has only succeeded in creating greater economic opportunity for himself, his friends, and donors, while his constituents in Cleveland County fall further behind.

NC House District 111



Summary

- *Moore has abused his office to help himself, his friends, and donors.*
- *Moore has refused to expand Medicaid, which has cost Cleveland County jobs, tax revenue, and over 3,000 of his constituents access to health care*
- *Despite Moore’s promises Cleveland County residents are worse off under Moore’s leadership and the county’s poverty and unemployment rates are higher than the rest of the state while earning less than the average North Carolinian.*
- *Median household income in Cleveland County is significantly lower than the statewide average.*
- *Cleveland County has a high rate of poverty and had not fallen below statewide recession-era numbers as of 2015.*
- *Nearly one quarter of Cleveland County residents received food aid in July 2016 while Moore was running for reelection.*
- *Moore claimed credit for increased education spending, but schools have fallen behind.*
- *The percentage of economically disadvantaged students in Cleveland County has increased over the past four years while decreasing statewide.*

Rep. Tim Moore



District Statistics

Poverty and Economic Hardship

- 19.8% of county residents (18,738 people) lived in poverty and struggled to make ends meet in 2015; the state poverty rate was 16.4%. (US Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2015, Budget and Tax Center, Retrieved [8/17/17](#))
- 29.4% of children in the county (6,167 children) lived in poverty in 2015, compared to 23.4% statewide. (US Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2015, Budget and Tax Center, Retrieved [8/17/17](#))
- 44.3% of the county's residents were low-income on average from 2011 to 2015, meaning their incomes were less than twice the federal poverty level (\$48,500 for a family of four in 2015). (US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2011-2015, Budget and Tax Center, Retrieved [8/17/17](#))

Work and Income Supports to Avoid Poverty

- 21,702 of the county's residents received assistance from the food and nutrition services (or food stamps) program in December 2016, with 22.1% of residents receiving assistance. (NC Division of Social Services, FNS Individuals Data, December 2016 & NC Office of State Budget and Management, Population Estimates, July 2016, Budget and Tax Center, Retrieved [8/17/17](#))
- 26,856 people in the county were eligible for Medicaid in December 2016, an increase of 41.4% since December 2007 when the recession began. Estimates suggest that 4,856 North Carolinians in the county would benefit from Medicaid expansion, delivering \$120.7 million in economic benefits to the county. (NC Division of Medical Assistance, December 2007 and 2016; and Cone Health Foundation. "The Economic and Employment Costs of Not Expanding Medicaid in North Carolina: A County-Level Analysis." December 2014. Budget and Tax Center, Retrieved [8/17/17](#))

Tim Moore voted for a budget that included \$1.5M Grant for Upgrades benefitting campaign contributors and staff

2016-17 budget included \$1.5M grant for water and sewer upgrades for Cleveland County Reservoir

Moore inserted last minute grant into budget for Lake where staff and key donors lived. "On June 27, state lawmakers were in the throes of hashing out the 2016-17 budget, when tucked on [page 182](#), a new line item appeared, as if by magic: a \$1.5 million grant for water and sewer upgrades and dam repair at John H. Moss Reservoir in Cleveland County. Such an appropriation sounds neither sexy nor controversial. That is, until it's revealed that the item was inserted in the budget during a final conference committee hearing at the end of the session. [No previous versions](#) of the Senate or House budget include it. And that Moss Reservoir, also known as Moss Lake, is in Kings Mountain, home [of House Speaker Tim Moore](#). And that his campaign treasurer; a campaign volunteer, and at least four campaign contributors live on or near the lake." (NC PolicyWatch, [8/11/16](#))

- **Moore Voted for H1030.** (H1030, House Adopted [7/1/16](#), Senate PCCS, p. 191; [6/28/16](#))

2016-17 Budget included \$1.5M from DEQ's water resources development projects budget to provide dam repair and water & sewer upgrades for John H. Moss Reservoir. "WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS SECTION 37.2.(a) The Department of Environmental Quality shall allocate funds for water resources development projects in accordance with the schedule that follows. The amounts set forth in the schedule include funds appropriated in this act for water resources development projects and funds carried forward from previous fiscal years in accordance with subsection (b) of this section. These funds will provide a State match for an estimated thirty-two million one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$32,150,000) in federal funds. Name of Project 2016-2017 (1) Neuse River – Goldsboro, Section 1135 \$ 150,000 (2) Carolina Beach Coastal Storm Damage Reduction 75,000 (3) Kure Beach Coastal Storm Damage Reduction 81,000 (4) Wrightsville Beach Coastal Storm Damage Reduction 561,000 (5) Ocean Isle Beach Coastal Storm Damage Reduction 1,535,000 (6) Eastern NC Stream Debris Removal 500,000 (7) State/Local Water Resources Development Grants 1,000,000 (8) Cape Fear Lock & Dam #2 Fish Ramp – Phase 1 500,000 (9) North Topsail Beach Shoreline Protection Project – Phase 2 500,000 (10) Environmental Quality Incentives Program – NRCS 2,000,000 (11) Town of Burgaw – Pender Hospital Drainage Improvements 347,000 (12) Ararat River, Surry County 500,000 (13) Town of Rutherfordton Stream Restoration 500,000 (14) Wilmington Harbor Maintenance - (15) Morehead City Harbor Maintenance 2,000,000 (16) Water Resources Planning Assistance to Communities 25,000 (17) John H. Moss Reservoir Dam Repair/Water & Sewer Upgrades 1,500,000 TOTALS \$ 11,774,000" (H1030, p. 182, signed by Gov. [7/14/16](#))

Moore failed to disclose he owned the property his campaign was paying to "rent"

Moore Properties of Kings Mountain filed deed for Wake County property in 2013

Deed for Moore's Wake County property was filed November 27, 2013 by Moore Properties of Kings Mountain. "According to campaign finance records, Moore's campaign has paid \$14,400 to a company he owns, Moore Properties of Kings Mountain, LLC, to rent a condo in Raleigh. Records maintained by the North Carolina Secretary of State's office lists Moore as the sole member of the LLC. A deed for the property was filed in Wake County on November 27, 2013 by the company. Campaign finance reports show Moore's campaign started making \$1,200 rent payments to the LLC in December 2013. Campaign finance reports show Moore's campaign paid rent for the Raleigh condo ten of twelve months in 2014; it did not pay rent in June or July. The campaign also paid rent for January 2015, records show." (WBTB, [12/14/15](#))

Moore's campaign paid "rent" for Raleigh condo he owns

VIDEO: Headline: "Campaigns of powerful lawmakers pay rent to companies they own" (WBTB, [12/14/15](#))

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Moore's campaign has "paid thousands of dollars in rent" to company that he owns. "The campaigns of North Carolina House Speaker Tim Moore (R-Cleveland) and State Senator Tom Apodaca (R-Henderson) have paid thousands of dollars in rent to companies that they own. The questions of payments made from by Moore's campaign were first made by conservative bloggers after an On Your Side investigation raised questions about Moore's failure to itemize campaign purchases made with credit cards. On Your Side Investigates reviewed the campaign finance reports for every member of the North Carolina General Assembly filed between January 2014 and June 2015. While some members used campaign funds to reimburse themselves for rent payments and many others used campaign funds to pay companies owned by third-parties, only Moore and Apodaca used campaign funds to pay rent to companies they owned themselves." (WBTV, [12/14/15](#))

Moore claimed "he cleared the rent payments" with the state board, "but neither Moore nor the board of elections could produce documents confirming such communication." "In a statement to On Your Side Investigates, Moore said he cleared the rent payments with the NCSBE prior to his campaign making them but neither Moore nor the board of elections could produce documents confirming such communication. 'Legislators who do not live within daily commuting distance of Raleigh often use campaign funds to offset the additional expenses for housing they incur. Some legislators pay rent on apartments year-round, some pay for hotel rooms, some rent rooms in private homes, others stay with friends and relatives for free,' Moore said. 'The law allows legislators to use campaign funds to offset rent expenses because these expenses would not be incurred but for the legislator's service in the General Assembly.' 'The State Board of Elections has again confirmed that the expenses I have incurred as a result of holding office have been appropriately accounted for and properly reported on my campaign reports,' he said." (WBTV, [12/14/15](#))

Moore is only member and General Manager of Moore Properties of Kings Mountain, LLC

According to records filed with the NC Secretary of State's office, Moore is listed as the sole member of Moore Properties of Kings Mountain. "According to campaign finance records, Moore's campaign has paid \$14,400 to a company he owns, Moore Properties of Kings Mountain, LLC, to rent a condo in Raleigh. Records maintained by the North Carolina Secretary of State's office lists Moore as the sole member of the LLC. A deed for the property was filed in Wake County on November 27, 2013 by the company. Campaign finance reports show Moore's campaign started making \$1,200 rent payments to the LLC in December 2013. Campaign finance reports show Moore's campaign paid rent for the Raleigh condo ten of twelve months in 2014; it did not pay rent in June or July. The campaign also paid rent for January 2015, records show." (WBTV, [12/14/15](#))

Moore is listed as the General Manager of Moore Properties of Kings Mountain, LLC, which filed articles of organization on 8/29/12 at 305 East Kings Street Kings Mountain, NC 28086 and describes its nature of business as rental property. (NC Secretary of State, retrieved [1/5/17](#))

- **Moore bought rental property in Kings Mountain and Huntersville and a small interest in a Forsyth County scrapyard.** "In recent years, he has bought a Jaguar and two Porsches, sometimes on eBay. When the real estate market dropped, he bought rental property in Kings Mountain and Huntersville. He also bought a small interest in a Forsyth County scrapyard." (Charlotte Observer, [1/10/15](#))

Tim Moore was appointed Cleveland County Attorney, while his cousin served as chair of county commissioners who appointed him

Moore was unanimously voted as the new county attorney by commissioners on July 7th 2015.

“That long-standing relationship between Yelton and the county ended on June 30 and in what some consider a controversial move, commissioners unanimously voted N.C. Speaker of the House and Kings Mountain native, Tim Moore, in as the new county attorney on July 7. While there had been no discussion of a change in previous public meetings, commissioner chairman Jason Falls was quoted in the July 7 meeting minutes, “the commissioners had been speaking for some time about bringing on a new county attorney.” (Shelby Star, [8/30/15](#))

Cleveland County Board of Commissioners Chairman Jason Falls is a “distant relative” of

Moore’s and “doubled down” on idea that board approached Moore. “Cleveland County Board of Commissioners Chairman Jason Falls, who is a distant relative of Moore’s, doubled down on the notion that the board approached Moore in a [follow-up article by the News & Observer on August 19, 2015](#).

“The commissioners reached out to Tim,” Falls told the N&O. ‘He’s well-known in our community. He’s a known quantity. We felt that would be a good fit.’” (WBTV, [4/29/16](#))

- **Moore and Falls are first cousins, once removed.** “Moore is related to Falls; they are first cousins, once removed. Falls said this week that he didn’t recuse himself from the hiring process because he doesn’t see that relationship as a conflict of interest. “It’s not a close family relationship,” Falls said. “It’s not something that anybody would see as a conflict.” State ethics laws define familial conflicts as those actions taken – in this case, by commissioners – that directly benefit the public official or the official’s spouse.” (Charlotte Observer, [8/19/15](#))

Moore “joked” to the county commissioners “about having another job that gave him ‘some insight’ about what is going on in the state.”

“Falls said Moore’s powerful role as House speaker wasn’t the reason he got the job. “It’s hard to separate out the fact that he is speaker of the House,” Falls said. “That is definitely not a negative on his qualifications, but we chose him because of his expertise, because of his integrity and his familiarity with Cleveland County.” According to the Shelby Star – which first reported Moore’s new job – the speaker joked to Cleveland commissioners this week “about having another job that gave him ‘some insight’ about what is going on in the state.” (News & Observer, [7/10/15](#))

Falls: “It’s hard to separate out the fact that he is speaker of the House.”

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Tim Moore’s former Chief of Staff was hired at UNC-Chapel Hill for a newly created position making \$280,000 annually

Moore’s former Chief of Staff Clayton Somers was hired by UNC-Chapel Hill to fill a position created by the Board of Governors in January 2017.

“Clayton Somers, who has been serving as N.C. House Speaker Tim Moore’s chief of staff, is joining UNC-Chapel Hill in a newly created position overseeing public affairs. Somers started work Monday as vice chancellor of public affairs and secretary of the university, a position created with approval from the UNC Board of Governors. That board is appointed by legislative leaders, including Moore. Somers will make an annual salary of \$280,000 - a big raise from the \$158,500 he earned when he joined the speaker’s office.” (News & Observer, 1/9/17)

Tim Moore has refused to expand Medicaid, which has cost Cleveland County jobs, tax revenue, and over 3,000 of his constituents access to health care

- **Moore voted for Medicaid reform without expansion in 2015.** (H372, House Adopted [9/22/15](#))
- **Moore voted against an amendment to accept Medicaid expansion.** (S4, House 2nd Reading, A2, [2/13/13](#))

Not expanding Medicaid in Cleveland County has led to 227 fewer jobs created, 3,237 people who do not have access to health care, \$120.7 million in less growth to the county's economy, and \$1.3 million less in county tax revenues. (Budget and Tax Center, Retrieved [8/17/17](#))

While other Republican-led states accepted federal funding to expand Medicaid, Moore said, "Creating more expense doesn't seem the prudent course." "GOP lawmakers in Raleigh have long been averse to the portion of the health care law that allows states to use federal funding to expand Medicaid eligibility. They voted in 2013 to block the state from expanding Medicaid, even as other Republican-led states accepted the federal funding. "We're grappling with trying to reform the Medicaid spending that we already have. Creating more expense doesn't seem the prudent course," House Speaker Tim Moore, R-Cleveland said." (Citizen-Times, [7/5/15](#))

Even as Moore said Medicaid is a critical program that should be preserved, he blamed the state's other priorities "in combination with Medicaid's continuous and unpredictable cost over-runs" for not being able to expand Medicaid. "Moore previously told The Star that Medicaid is a critical program and must be preserved so that the most needy individuals and families have access to quality health care, but the legislature has to consider all of the state's programs. "While we continue to evaluate the program, we need to keep in mind all of our state's priorities: education funding, teacher pay, infrastructure funding, justice and public safety, and Medicare, to name a few." Moore said. "Those priorities, in combination with Medicaid's continuous and unpredictable cost over-runs, won't allow us to expand in a responsible way." (Citizen-Times, [7/5/15](#))

Republicans blocked Medicaid expansion that covered 500,000 low-income North Carolinians and was fully funded by federal tax money for three years, and 90 percent of costs thereafter. "The Medicaid expansion would cover about 500,000 low-income adults in North Carolina, providing them the insurance coverage required when the Affordable Care Act is fully implemented next year. The federal government would pick up the full cost of the expansion for the first three years and the bulk of the costs for several years after that." (WRAL, [2/14/13](#); S4, ratified, [3/6/13](#))

Cleveland County residents worse off under Moore's leadership, county's poverty and unemployment rates higher than rest of state and earn less than NC average.

Cleveland County residents have faced poverty and unemployment at higher rates than the rest of the state while earning less than average.

The poverty rate in Cleveland County has been significantly higher than the statewide rate since 2010. In 2010 the poverty rate in Cleveland County was 20.9, while statewide the rate was 17.4. (US Census Bureau, *Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates*, [2010-2015](#))

Cleveland County's unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the statewide average since 2013. In January 2013 Cleveland County's unadjusted unemployment rate was 11.4, statewide the rate was 9.7 In January 2017 Cleveland County's rate was 5.9, statewide the rate was 5.5. (Labor & Economic Analysis Division, *Local Area Unemployment Statistics*, [2013-2016](#))

There were over 1,000 more people looking for jobs than there were available jobs in December 2016 in the county. “There were 2,518 people looking for work in Cleveland County compared to 1,319 job openings in December 2016.” (Budget & Tax Center, Cleveland County Economic Snapshot, April [2017](#))

In December 2007 there were more people employed in Cleveland County than in December 2016. “There were 1,727 fewer employed people in the county in December 2016 than there were in December 2007 (when the Great Recession began).” (Budget & Tax Center, Cleveland County Economic Snapshot, April [2017](#))

	Unadjusted Unemployment Rate Cleveland County	Statewide
March 2017	4.9	4.7
January 2017	5.9	5.5
December 2016	5.3	4.9
June 2016	5.6	5.2
March 2016	5.7	5
January 2016	6.3	5.4
December 2015	5.9	5.2
June 2015	6.9	6.2
March 2015	6.4	5.6
January 2015	6.8	6.1
December 2014	6.2	5.4
June 2014	7.6	6.5
March 2014	7.6	6.7
January 2014	8.1	6.9
December 2013	7.7	6.6
June 2013	10.3	8.6
March 2013	9.8	8.3
January 2013	11.4	9.7

(Labor & Economic Analysis Division, *Local Area Unemployment Statistics*, [2013-2016](#))

Median household income in Cleveland County is significantly lower than the statewide average.

Median household income has been significantly lower than the statewide average since 2010 in Cleveland County. In 2010 the statewide average median household income was \$43,417 and was \$38,392 in Cleveland County. (US Census Bureau, *Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates*, [2010-2015](#))

The median household income in Cleveland County was over \$7K less than the statewide average in 2015. Median household income in Cleveland County was \$40,237 in 2015, statewide the average was \$47,884. (US Census Bureau, *Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates*, [2010-2015](#))

- **A family of three must earn wages equaling \$21.39 per hour to meet basic needs in Cleveland County.** “For a family size of three, it costs \$21.39 per hour to make ends meet in the county, where the hourly median wage falls short of what’s needed by 71.4%.” (Budget & Tax Center, Cleveland County Economic Snapshot, April [2017](#))

Income disparity is high with the richest 5 percent of households earning 25 times that of the poorest fifth in the county. “The richest 5% of the county’s households had an average income that was 25 times greater than that of the poorest fifth of households and 6 times greater than that of the middle fifth of households, on average, from 2011 to 2015.” (Budget & Tax Center, Cleveland County Economic Snapshot, April [2017](#))

Only five counties have annual pay above the statewide average, with Cleveland County falling between 10 and 24.9 percent lower than the \$44,969 average figure. Wake, Durham, Mecklenburg, Orange and Forsyth counties have substantially higher incomes than the rest of the state. Iredell, Guilford, Granville, Wilson and Pitt counties are within 10 percent of the \$44,969 average figure. The other 90 counties in the state have an average annual pay that’s at least 10 percent lower. The vast majority of counties posted figures that are at least 25 percent lower. (News & Observer, [1/7/16](#))

	Median Household Income					
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Cleveland County	40,237	39,444	40,528	38,265	37,390	38,392
Statewide	47,884	46,596	45,946	45,195	44,028	43,417

(US Census Bureau, *Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates*, [2010-2015](#))

Cleveland County has a high rate of poverty and had not fallen below statewide recession-era numbers as of 2015

The poverty rate in Cleveland County has been significantly higher than the statewide rate since 2010. In 2010 the poverty rate in Cleveland County was 20.9, while statewide the rate was 17.4. (US Census Bureau, *Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates*, [2010-2015](#))

Poverty peaked in Cleveland County in 2012 at a rate of 22.9. The statewide peak rate was 18. (US Census Bureau, *Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates*, [2010-2015](#))

Poverty in Cleveland County has not fallen below statewide recession-era numbers. The poverty rate in Cleveland County in 2015 was 19.8, while statewide it was 17.4. In 2010, 17.8 in 2011, 18 in 2012. (US Census Bureau, *Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates*, [2010-2015](#))

22.1 percent of Cleveland County residents received food aid in December 2016. “21,702 of the county’s residents received assistance from the food and nutrition services (or food stamps) program in December 2016, with 22.1% of residents receiving assistance.” (Budget & Tax Center, Cleveland County Economic Snapshot, April [2017](#))

	Poverty Rate					
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Cleveland County	19.8	21.1	19.6	22.9	20	20.9
Statewide	16.4	17.2	17.8	18	17.8	17.4

(US Census Bureau, *Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates*, [2010-2015](#))

Nearly one quarter of Cleveland County residents received food aid in July 2016 while Moore was running for reelection.

23 percent of Cleveland County residents received food aid in July 2016. 23 percent of residents received food aid in July 2016, down from 25 percent in July 2015 and 2014. (NC Division of Social Services, FNS Individuals Data, [July 2016-2013](#), NC OSBM, Annual County Population Totals, [2010-2019](#))

Cleveland County has consistently had a higher percentage of residents receiving food aid than statewide totals. In July 2016 only 15 percent of North Carolinians statewide received food aid while 23 percent of Cleveland residents. (NC Division of Social Services, FNS Individuals Data, [July 2016-2013](#), NC OSBM, Annual County Population Totals, [2010-2019](#))

Percentage of Cleveland County Residents Receiving Food Aid				
	July 2016	July 2015	July 2014	July 2013
Cleveland County	23%	25%	25%	26%
Statewide	15%	16%	17%	17%

(NC Division of Social Services, *FNS Individuals Data*, [July 2016-2013](#), NC OSBM, *Annual County Population Totals*, [2010-2019](#))

Moore claimed credit for increased education spending, but schools have fallen behind.

Moore claimed credit for education investments, “denying” culpability in choice to reduce taxes

“Republican lawmakers are acutely aware of their culpability in this choice, but instead of defending it or apologizing for it, they’re denying it.” “Instead of investing in the state’s children, instead of improving education as a way for poor children to escape poverty and all children to achieve goals, the Republican-led General Assembly has chosen to reduce state taxes, mostly to the benefit of the wealthy and big corporations. Billions of dollars in tax revenue that could have lifted North Carolina’s schools to new heights instead has been diverted into tax cuts that have produced no tangible results. Republican lawmakers are acutely aware of their culpability in this choice, but instead of defending it or apologizing for it, they’re denying it. Even worse, they’re claiming credit for *increasing* spending on public education. This is duplicity joined with sophistry, and it should stir the smoldering anger over the neglect of public schools into outrage.” (News & Observer Editorial, [8/20/16](#))

Moore caused tax shift to counties who have paid for education funding gap

“In recent years, the burden of funding public school districts has shifted by a few degrees from the state to fall more heavily on county governments.” “In recent years, the burden of funding public school districts has shifted by a few degrees from the state to fall more heavily on county governments. Since 2012, the Moore County Board of Education has nearly depleted a \$12 million savings account absorbing the effects. [...] Traditionally, as outlined in North Carolina’s constitution, county governments are responsible for school capital — buildings and maintenance — while the state pays for teachers, staff and learning materials, formerly textbooks but increasingly computers and digital educational programs. But state funding to the schools has fallen over the last decade from \$6,300 per student in 2007-2008 to \$5,616 for 2016-2017. It bottomed out in 2013-2014 at \$5,337.” (Southern Pines Pilot, [4/25/17](#))

Moore voted for millions of dollars in private school vouchers, giving our tax dollars to religious schools that discriminate against students with disabilities and have no requirement that they teach basic subjects such as science or history, or even require teachers to have a college degree

\$34.8M for opportunity scholarship grant fund reserve to fund scholarship for subsequent fiscal year. “Establishes an Opportunity Scholarship Grant Fund Reserve in order to shift the program to forward funding. The Reserve will be used to fund scholarships for the subsequent fiscal year. The revised net appropriation for the Opportunity Scholarship Grant Fund Reserve is \$34.8 million.” (H1030, Joint Conference Committee Report, p. F24, [6/27/16](#))

Charlotte Observer on 2013 Budget: “It’s the first step in a Republican move toward bigger voucher programs, which will inevitably shift education money from public schools to private schools. And the worse those underfunded public schools get, the easier it is for Republicans to declare them failed instead of fixable.” “How could legislators possibly think this is a good idea? Here’s a clue: The budget also includes a \$10 million program that allows low-income families to use up to \$4,200 for private school tuition. It’s the first step in a Republican move toward bigger voucher programs, which will inevitably shift education money from public schools to private schools. And the worse those underfunded public schools get, the easier it is for Republicans to declare them failed instead of fixable.” (*Charlotte Observer*, editorial, [7/23/13](#); S402, ratified, [7/25/13](#))

Most opportunity scholarship dollars are going to urban areas, not rural parts of North Carolina.

“Most Opportunity Scholarship voucher recipients live in metro areas.” “Most Opportunity Scholarship voucher recipients live in metro areas, with Wake County leading the list with 351 recipients in 2015-16 as of Jan. 4 of this year. Cumberland County accounted for the second largest number of recipients - 307. Guilford, Mecklenburg and Forsyth counties were the only other counties with recipient numbers in triple digits - 237, 237 and 157 recipients, respectively.” (*Fayetteville Observer*, [2/25/16](#))

The percentage of economically disadvantaged students in Cleveland County has increased over the past four years while decreasing statewide

In 2015-16 over half, 67.6 percent, of Cleveland County students were economically disadvantaged. 52.48 percent of students statewide were economically disadvantaged in 2015-16. (NC Public Schools, *Data and Reports*, [2012-2016](#))

Since 2012, 10 years into Moore’s term in the NC House, more than half of Cleveland County students have been economically disadvantaged. In 2012-13, 63.77 percent of students were economically disadvantaged in the county, but only 56.14 percent were at the statewide level. (NC Public Schools, *Data and Reports*, [2012-2016](#))

The number of economically disadvantaged Cleveland County students has increased by nearly 4 percent over the past four years. In 2012-13, 63.77 percent of students were economically disadvantaged in the county, in 2015-16, 67.60 percent were. (NC Public Schools, *Data and Reports*, [2012-2016](#))

Statewide, the number of economically disadvantaged students has decreased by 3.66 percent over the past four years. In 2012-13 56.14 percent of students were economically disadvantaged statewide, in 2015-16 52.48 percent were. (NC Public Schools, *Data and Reports*, [2012-2016](#))

Percent Economically Disadvantaged Students					
	2015-2016	2014-2015	2013-2014	2012-2013	% Change
Cleveland County Schools	67.60%	66.97%	66.46%	63.77%	3.83%
Statewide	52.48%	52.83%	57.56%	56.14%	-3.66%

(NC Public Schools, *Data and Reports*, [2012-2016](#))

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