

# North Carolina Legislator Profile

**Rep. Jonathan Jordan: (R-Ashe & Watauga)  
House District 93**

**“The ship is leaking. If we added 500,000, the whole boat will sink.” – Jonathan Jordan** said after voting to block the Medicaid expansion that would have covered 500,000 low-income North Carolinians and lowered costs for all North Carolinians (*Jefferson Post*, 06/24/13)

*Jonathan Jordan was elected in 2010 and has served four terms. Previously working for the right-wing John Locke Foundation, Jordan has maintained his strong relationship with the group’s founder, Art Pope. Since being in office, he has accepted thousands of dollars in campaign contributions from associated groups and consistently voted for legislation in line with Pope’s radical right-wing vision for North Carolina. North Carolina deserves a legislator that will put the needs of North Carolina first, not wealthy benefactors.*

***Jordan has spent his eight years in the legislature undermining education in NC.*** Because of Jordan’s votes, education remains insufficiently funded. North Carolina teacher pay has not meaningfully increased during Jordan’s time in office. Jordan has supported legislation that takes money away from public education and diverts it to private schools, prioritizing his private interests over the wellbeing of students across the state. To make it even worse, Jordan has accepted campaign contributions from groups who do not care about North Carolina’s future for education. Jordan cares more about his own pocket than our teachers and students.

***Jordan voted against expanding Medicaid to North Carolinians, causing costs to skyrocket for all North Carolinians and especially those who need it the most – it’s a big part of why we have the 3rd most expensive health care in the country.*** Clearly in line with Art Pope’s agenda, Jordan’s vote against Medicaid expansion actively hurts North Carolinians and limits access to healthcare.

***Jordan, having received donations from Duke Energy, chose to not hold them accountable after their coal ash spill in 2016 and to pass the cost onto the ratepayers.*** After the spill, legislation was introduced that would free Duke Energy from the responsibility of cleaning up the disaster they caused. This ultimately saved Duke Energy billions of dollars, at the expense of North Carolinians and the environment.



## Summary

**Prior to running for office, Jordan worked as the Director of Research for the John Locke Foundation, funded by Art Pope, who seeks to impose his backwards and closed-minded agenda on North Carolinians.**

- When Jordan first ran for office he received \$76,880.72 in campaign donations from Art Pope associated groups and has since pushed an Art Pope education agenda that fails North Carolina to the detriment of our students.

**Following a Pope-funded agenda, Jordan has consistently voted for policies that fail to fully fund public education.**

- Jordan voted for the 2018 Republican budget, barely raising teacher pay and shortchanging students.
- The 2017 Republican budget Jordan voted for spent the absolute bare minimum on teachers and our education system.
- The 2015 Republican budget Jordan supported failed to increase teachers' salaries and kept NC teacher pay ranked at the bottom 10 in the nation.
- The Republican 2013 budget Jordan voted for made significant cuts to education spending, increased class size, and caused teacher pay to stagnate.

**Jordan voted against Medicaid expansion which would have covered 500,000 low-income North Carolinians, backing an Art Pope-funded agenda and raising costs for everyone.**

- Jordan choosing not to expand Medicaid proved to have steep costs for our state; blocking Medicaid increased the cost of healthcare and even cost some North Carolinians their lives.
- Instead of expanding Medicaid for 500,000 low-income North Carolinians, Jordan opted to vote no, in line with his loyalty to Art Pope.
- North Carolina has the 3<sup>rd</sup> most expensive health care in the country, according to a 2017 study.

**Jordan voted for bills that passed the cost of cleaning up Duke Energy's coal ash spill to taxpayers and received at least \$1,250 in campaign donations from Duke Energy and Piedmont Natural Gas.**

- Jordan has received at least \$1,250 from Duke Energy and Piedmont Natural Gas.
- The "Duke Bailout Bill" Jordan voted for passed the cost of cleaning up Duke Energy's coal ash spill to constituents.
- A regulatory bill Jordan voted for allowed Duke Energy to avoid coal ash cleanup after giving money to Jordan and his fellow Republicans.
- Jordan voted against an amendment that would have protected ratepayers from paying the outrageous cost to clean up coal ash.

**Prior to running for office, Jordan worked as the Director of Research for the John Locke Foundation, funded by Art Pope, who seeks to impose his backwards and closed-minded agenda on North Carolinians.**

**Art Pope is a wealthy donor who has influenced politics to move North Carolina “closer to the conservative vision he has long imagined.”** “There is no one in North Carolina, or likely in all of American politics, quite like Art Pope. He is not just a wealthy donor seeking to influence politics from the outside, nor just a government official shaping it from within. He is doing both at the same time – the culmination of a quarter-century spent building a sphere of influence that has put him at the epicenter of North Carolina government and moved his state closer to the conservative vision he has long imagined.” (Charlotte Observer, [7/26/14](#))

**Art Pope-associated outside groups Americans for Prosperity, Civitas Action, and Real Jobs NC spent a combined \$76,880.72 on electioneering communications benefitting Jordan during the 2010 campaign.** “\$77,035.31 was spent by outside groups on electioneering communications benefitting Jordan. Art Pope-associated outside groups Americans for Prosperity, Civitas Action, and Real Jobs NC spent a combined \$76,880.72 on electioneering communications benefitting Jordan during the 2010 campaign.” (North Carolina Free Enterprise Foundation, Spending by Outside Groups in North Carolina General Assembly Races, 2010 Election Cycle, retrieved 6/21/12)

**Pope’s “various organizations have long supported more charter schools, vouchers and cutting funding for traditional schools...”** “Nowhere is Pope's imprint more evident than in education policy. His various organizations have long supported more charter schools, vouchers and cutting funding for traditional schools—especially for elaborate facilities, administrators and extracurricular programs. The groups also support merit pay for teachers whose students get the best test results.” (IndyWeek, [3/9/11](#))

**The John Locke Foundation is an Art Pope-funded think tank.** “Within hours, video of Woodhouse, Stam and Sen. Neal Hunt, R-Wake, who spoke in favor of merit pay for teachers, was posted to The Locker Room, a blog with a conservative bent. The blog is maintained by the John Locke Foundation, an Art Pope-funded think tank in Raleigh.” (IndyWeek, [3/9/11](#))

**“In 1990, Pope and his father launched the John Locke Foundation, a think tank that is now the state’s premier idea generator on the right.”** “In 1990, Pope and his father launched the [John Locke Foundation](#), a think tank that is now the state’s premier idea generator on the right. They followed it with the Pope Center on Higher Education Policy, a passion of Pope’s father, who had served on UNC Chapel Hill’s board of trustees. The constitutional-law center was created to focus on legal issues, while the Civitas Institute holds elected officials accountable to conservative principles.” (Charlotte Observer, [7/26/14](#))

**When Jordan first ran for office he received \$76,880.72 in campaign donations from Art-Pope associated groups and has since pushed an Art Pope education agenda that fails North Carolina to the detriment of our students.**

**Art Pope and three of his relatives individually contributed \$16,000 to Jordan’s 2010 campaign.** Art Pope, his wife, Katherine, his sister, Amanda Joyce, and mother, Joyce Pope each contributed \$4,000 to Jordan’s campaign committee. (NCSBE, retrieved 11/28/17)

**Jordan served as the director of research for the John Locke Foundation from 1997 to 1999.** “Career: Attorney in Jefferson; county attorney in Stokes County, 2003-2006; communications director of N.C. Republican Party, 2001-2003; director of research, John Locke Foundation, 1997-1999.” (Winston-Salem Journal, [10/22/12](#))

**Following a Pope-funded agenda, Jordan has consistently voted for policies that fail to fully fund public education. Jordan has received thousands in campaign donations from groups who do not care about North Carolina and its future.**

**Jordan voted for the 2018 Republican budget, barely raising teacher pay and shortchanging students.**

- **NOTE:** Jordan voted for the conference report for S99 and the veto override. (S99, veto overridden in Senate [6/7/18](#), veto overridden in House [6/12/18](#))

**Jordan supported the 2018 Appropriations Act saying, “They did a really good job with state employee pay, as well as teacher pay.”** “The 2018 Appropriations Act, Senate Bill 99, was unveiled to the public Monday night for the first time. According to media reports, the bill is being fast-tracked and won't see any amendments or major changes before going to a floor vote in the state House and Senate. "Overall it's a really good budget," said Rep. Jonathan Jordan (R-Jefferson) of House District 93. "They did a really good job with state employee pay, as well as teacher pay."” (The Blowing Rocket, 5/31/18)

**The budget includes a 6.5 percent teacher pay raise on average.** “The full plan was released Monday night. It includes 6.5 percent teacher pay raises on average, \$15 million for prison security upgrades and previously announced initiatives to lure large companies to the state and study little-known contaminants in state rivers.” (Associated Press, [5/28/18](#); S99, Senate adopted conference report, [5/31/18](#))

**Democrats had laid out plans for an 8 percent teacher pay raise on average.** “However, Cooper and his fellow Democrats had laid out plans for an even higher teacher pay raise of 8 percent, on average. Cooper's plan is slightly more generous to teachers in their first five years on the job, and then both he and the legislature have the same figures for raises in the next 10 years of a teacher's career. But once teachers hit their 15th year on the job, Cooper's plan would again become more generous.” (News & Observer, [5/28/18](#))

**Jordan voted for the 2017 Republican budget, spending the absolute bare minimum on teachers and our education system, while diverting \$45 million to the controversial school voucher program.**

- **NOTE:** Jordan voted for S257, the conference report, and the veto override. (S257, veto overridden [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](#))

**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. (\$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](#))

**Vouchers "siphon funds away from the underfunded public school system and sends those tax dollars to private schools without accountability and transparency measures."** "Proponents of school vouchers say that the program enables low-income families to opt out of failing public schools to attend private institutions that offer better educational environments. But critics of the program say that the vouchers siphon funds away from the underfunded public school system and sends those tax dollars to private schools without accountability and transparency measures that ensure students are indeed getting a better education. The Opportunity Scholarships law also fails to ensure that private schools receiving tax dollars do not discriminate against students on the basis of religion or sexual identity." (WRAL, [1/27/17](#))

**Jordan voted for the 2015 Republican budget, failing to increase teachers' salaries and keeping NC teacher pay ranked at the bottom 10 in the nation.**

➤ **NOTE:** Jordan voted for H97 and the conference report. (H97, signed by Gov. [9/18/15](#))

**The budget failed to provide salary increases for teachers and offered a one-time \$750 bonus instead.** "All state employees, including teachers, will get a one-time \$750 bonus to be paid 'somewhere around the end of the year,' according to Senate Budget Chairman Harry Brown, R-Onslow, and a summary document released by negotiators. Speaking on WRAL News, Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger likened it to a 'Christmas bonus.'" (WRAL, [8/27/15](#))

**NC teacher pay ranked in the bottom 10, only beating Mississippi and West Virginia in the Southeast.** According to WRAL, "Despite an effort to raise starting salaries, North Carolina is expected to remain in the bottom 10 states nationally in average teacher pay, according to a report released Wednesday. The National Education Association estimates the average salary for a North Carolina public school teacher in the 2014-15 school year at \$47,783, which ranks 42nd nationally." (WRAL, [3/18/15](#))

**Jordan voted for the 2013 budget, which made significant cuts to education spending, increased class size, and caused teacher pay to stagnate. The budget also included the Opportunity Scholarship Act, which diverted public education money to private schools.**

➤ **NOTE:** Jordan voted for S402 and the conference report. (S402, signed by Gov. [7/26/13](#))

**The Republican 2013 budget cut education spending by \$500 million, increased class size and kept NC national teacher pay near the bottom of nation.** "Here's what the Senate and House budget plan, set for a vote this week, does to N.C. schools: It cuts education spending by almost \$500 million in the next two years, including a decrease in net spending for K-12 public schools. It invites bigger and more chaotic classrooms by removing the cap on some classroom sizes and cutting funding for elementary school teacher assistants. School systems can offset those cuts if they somehow find money in their shrinking budgets, but if they don't, more than 3,850 second- and third-grade teaching assistants will be gone. It

phases out extra pay for teachers who earn a master's degree, removing at least some incentive for teachers to improve themselves and their classrooms. Most critically, it continues to pay N.C. public school teachers abysmally. The budget doesn't give teachers raises next year, which guarantees that N.C. will continue to rank near the bottom of national rankings in teacher pay." (Charlotte Observer, Editorial, 7/23/13)

**Poor pay for NC teachers meant they were forced into other jobs and relied on Medicaid**

**if they stayed.** "Lindsay Kosmala Furst loves teaching, but leaving the profession may be a matter of survival for her family. A North Carolina teacher since 2007, Furst's income is so low that her two young daughters, ages 1 and 3, qualify for Medicaid. The Buncombe County high school English teacher sent legislators a letter Monday about her job and her family after learning that the state budget has no raises for teachers. "We never wanted to live in luxury," she wrote. "We did, however, hope to be able to take our little girls out for an ice cream or not wonder where we will find the gas money to visit their grandparents." Teachers on Monday said cuts in the state budget released Sunday amount to the legislators forsaking public education. Teacher pay will remain near the bottom of national rankings. More than 3,850 teacher assistant positions will be gone. The extra pay for teachers who earn master's degrees will be phased out..." (News & Observer, 7/22/13)

- **"It is genuinely scary. I get the feeling that our legislators have a vendetta against teachers."** "Dov Rosenberg, a teacher at Rogers-Herr Middle School in Durham, said he isn't concerned about losing his job but worries for the teaching profession and the future of public education in the state. "It feels like a slap in the face when they talk about how they want to attract high quality teachers, and this budget seems to do nothing but discourage people from entering the teaching profession," he said. 'It is genuinely scary. I get the feeling that our legislators have a vendetta against teachers.'" (News & Observer, 7/22/13)

**Jordan voted against Medicaid expansion which would have covered 500,000 low-income North Carolinians, backing an Art Pope-funded agenda.**

- **NOTE:** Jordan voted for S4 and the conference report. (S4, signed by Gov. [3/6/13](#))

**Jordan choosing not to expand Medicaid proved to have steep costs for our state; blocking Medicaid increased the cost of healthcare and even cost some North Carolinians their lives.**

**Republicans blocked Medicaid expansion that covered 500,000 low-income North Carolinians and was fully funded by federal tax money for 3 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](#))

**Medicaid expansion would mean \$15 billion in new economic activity and 25,000 jobs for North Carolina by 2016.** “The cost would be fully funded by the federal government for the first three years. For five years following that, the federal government would pay 90 percent of the cost, and the state would pay 10 percent. That’s a much more favorable cost share than regular Medicaid, for which the state pays one-third of the cost. If lawmakers approve the expansion, it would bring a projected \$15 billion into the state’s economy, creating an estimated 25,000 jobs in health care and related sectors by 2016.” (WRAL, [2/11/13](#); S4, ratified, [3/6/13](#))

**Blocking Medicaid expansion cost 455 to 1,145 lives per year and resulted in higher costs for employers.** “Two studies out this month say turning down the federal Medicaid expansion could cost North Carolina the lives of hundreds of low-income uninsured people per year and leave businesses on the hook for tens of millions of dollars annually in tax penalties, beginning in 2015. [An analysis released by tax preparation firm Jackson Hewitt](#) urges policymakers debating Medicaid expansion to include “the very real costs of the shared responsibility tax penalties to employers” in calculating the net costs of expansion to the state... [Another new analysis by health policy experts from Harvard University and City University of New York](#) finds that opting out of Medicaid expansion will cost between 455 and 1,145 lives a year in North Carolina.” (WRAL, [1/31/14](#); S4, ratified, [3/6/13](#))

- **Jackson Hewitt study found failure to expand Medicaid resulted in higher penalties for employers.** “In the 25 states that have opted out of Medicaid expansion, low-income workers between 100 and 138 percent of the poverty level who would have been eligible for free coverage will now have to buy their own insurance. Each of those workers can also claim the tax credit to offset his or her premium, triggering an additional \$2,000 penalty for his or her employer. Those employers would not have owed a tax penalty if the workers had enrolled in Medicaid.” (WRAL, [1/31/14](#); S4, ratified, [3/6/13](#))
- **Harvard and CUNY study found NC failure to expand Medicaid meant between 455 and 1,145 lives would be lost per year due to preventable causes.** “[Another new analysis by health policy experts from Harvard University and City University of New York](#) finds that opting out of Medicaid expansion will cost between 455 and 1,145 lives a year in North Carolina. The study's authors looked primarily at preventive screenings and chronic disease management in states across the country. Medicaid expansion

would extend those services to currently uninsured low-income workers making between 100 and 138 percent of the poverty level a year. The difference in North Carolina, the authors say, is somewhere between 455 and 1,145 preventable deaths per year that might have been avoided by expanding coverage.” (WRAL, [1/31/14](#); S4, ratified, [3/6/13](#))

**Jordan voted against an amendment to accept Medicaid expansion so long as it was fully funded by the federal government.** (S4, ratified, [3/6/13](#); [Amendment 2](#), [2/13/13](#))

**Instead of expanding Medicaid for 500,000 low-income North Carolinians, Jordan opted to vote no, in line with his Pope-funded agenda.**

**Blocking Medicaid expansion is an idea “touted by Pope’s think tanks.”** “Last year, the General Assembly approved [a series of conservative measures](#) that resembled ideas touted by Pope’s think tanks. Among them were bills that cut unemployment benefits, blocked the expansion of Medicaid, restricted access to abortions and ushered in new restrictions on voting.” (Charlotte Observer, [7/26/14](#))

**Art Pope is a wealthy donor who has influenced politics to move North Carolina “closer to the conservative vision he has long imagined.”** “There is no one in North Carolina, or likely in all of American politics, quite like Art Pope. He is not just a wealthy donor seeking to influence politics from the outside, nor just a government official shaping it from within. He is doing both at the same time – the culmination of a quarter-century spent building a sphere of influence that has put him at the epicenter of North Carolina government and moved his state closer to the conservative vision he has long imagined.” (Charlotte Observer, [7/26/14](#))

**Jordan served as the director of research for the John Locke Foundation from 1997 to 1999.** ““Career: Attorney in Jefferson; county attorney in Stokes County, 2003-2006; communications director of N.C. Republican Party, 2001-2003; director of research, John Locke Foundation, 1997-1999.” (Winston-Salem Journal, [10/22/12](#))

- **The John Locke Foundation is an Art Pope-funded think tank.** “Within hours, video of Woodhouse, Stam and Sen. Neal Hunt, R-Wake, who spoke in favor of merit pay for teachers, was posted to The Locker Room, a blog with a conservative bent. The blog is maintained by the John Locke Foundation, an Art Pope-funded think tank in Raleigh.” (IndyWeek, [3/9/11](#))
- **“In 1990, Pope and his father launched the John Locke Foundation, a think tank that is now the state’s premier idea generator on the right.”** “In 1990, Pope and his father launched the [John Locke Foundation](#), a think tank that is now the state’s premier idea generator on the right. They followed it with the Pope Center on Higher Education Policy, a passion of Pope’s father, who had served on UNC Chapel Hill’s board of trustees. The constitutional-law center was created to focus on legal issues, while the Civitas Institute holds elected officials accountable to conservative principles.” (Charlotte Observer, [7/26/14](#))

**North Carolina has the third most expensive health care in the US, according to a 2017 study**

**North Carolina ranked 47<sup>th</sup> across metrics of cost, accessibility, and outcomes in a Wallethub study.** (Wallethub, [8/6/18](#))

**Blue Cross Blue Shield referenced the study and blamed state government decisions as one reason for the high cost.** “In the last few years, North Carolina’s lawmakers made two crucial decisions that caused healthcare costs to rise. First, the state decided not to expand Medicaid coverage. So there are a lot of people in North Carolina’s individual insurance market who might have been covered under Medicaid, but instead, have to purchase insurance through the ACA’s federal marketplace. These folks tend to have more expensive chronic health problems, and the cost of their medical care has [caused insurance premiums for ACA customers](#) in our state to rise.” (Blue Cross Blue Shield, [8/1/17](#))

**Jordan voted for bills that passed the cost of cleaning up Duke Energy's coal ash spill to the ratepayers and received at least \$1,250 in campaign donations from Duke Energy and Piedmont Natural Gas.**

**Jordan has received at least \$1,250 from Duke Energy and Piedmont Natural Gas.**

➤ **NOTE:** Only checked campaign donations from 2016 to the present.

<b>PAC</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Piedmont Natural Gas PAC	2/22/16	\$250
Duke Energy Corporation PAC	1/28/16	\$1,000
		<b>Total: \$1,250</b>

**Jordan voted for the "Duke Bailout Bill" that passed the cost of cleaning up Duke Energy's coal ash spill to constituents.**

➤ **NOTE:** Jordan voted for H630. (H630, House concurred, [6/30/16](#))

**SELC attorney said "Duke Bailout Bill" is "damning proof" that families cannot rely on the state to protect drinking water from Duke Energy's pollution.** "Environmental groups quickly chastised the legislation. 'This coal ash bill is damning proof that the families and communities of North Carolina can't rely on state politicians to protect their drinking water supplies from Duke Energy's coal ash pollution,' said Frank Holleman, senior attorney at the Southern Environmental Law Center, in a statement. Added Holleman: 'This Duke Bailout Bill is a betrayal of the North Carolina people who participated in good faith in the process and followed the rules established by the legislature in 2014. Public participation led to the conclusion that the law and science require Duke Energy to excavate its coal ash from its leaking, unlined pits. Duke Energy didn't like the results and so today the North Carolina Senate turned its back on the people and clean water and threw into the trash can public process, facts, science, and the law.'" (WUNC, [6/29/16](#))

**Covering coal ash in unlined pits "could continue allowing toxic pollutants to escape for decades."** "The reevaluation would allow regulators to see if fewer pits would need excavation. 'The deadlines in the coal ash law are too compressed to allow adequate repairs to be completed,' state environment secretary Donald van der Vaart said in a statement. 'The intent was not to set pond closure deadlines based on incomplete information. Making decisions based on incomplete information could lead to the expenditure of billions of dollars when spending millions now would provide equal or better protection.' The alternative method of closing all of Duke Energy's coal-ash basins is to drain off excess water and cover the remaining residue in plastic and dirt. Environmentalists warn covering the unlined coal ash pits could continue allowing toxic pollutants to escape for decades." (AP, [5/18/16](#))

**This bill was good for Duke's bottom line, saving them billions of dollars.**

**Revisiting plan "would give Duke time to fix ash pond dams," and could "save Duke billions of dollars."** "North Carolina's environment department decided Wednesday that all of Duke Energy's coal ash ponds must be excavated – but only for now. The Department of Environmental Quality said it will ask legislators to change the state's coal ash law to let DEQ

reconsider its decisions in 18 months. That would give Duke time to fix ash pond dams and, possibly, offer permanent alternative water sources to hundreds of homes with contaminated wells. It could also save Duke billions of dollars.” (News & Observer, [5/18/16](#))

**Duke said it expected “to ask state regulators to allow it to pass along its coal-ash bill to electricity consumers.”** “Duke Energy in 2014 floated a potential cost to excavate coal ash from 14 of its coal-burning power plants at \$10 billion. The company has said it expected to ask state utilities regulators to allow it to pass along its coal-ash bill to electricity customers. The company last year estimated the likely costs at about \$4 billion, which could raise power rates for the average North Carolina household by about \$18 a year over 25 years.” (AP, [5/18/16](#))

**A regulatory bill Jordan voted for allowed Duke Energy to avoid coal ash cleanup after giving money to Jordan and his fellow Republicans.**

➤ **NOTE:** *Jordan voted for H74. (H74, conference report adopted, [7/26/13](#))*

**Duke lobbyists successfully got pet provision in 2013 regulatory bill allowing them to avoid coal ash cleanup, after giving \$95,000 to Republican legislators.** “Still, regulators alone could not protect the company from its huge liability if the environmental groups persevered in court. So Duke officials lobbied — successfully — to change state law, itself... Data collected from Duke’s own monitoring wells showed contamination beyond that 500-foot limit at several of its properties, with high levels of arsenic, selenium, lead and other poisonous contaminants found in coal ash...Duke Energy and its executives have donated millions in recent years to both Republicans and Democrats. Though 2013 was not an election year, records show the company continued to give generously as its lobbyists sought to protect its ash pits. A political action committee underwritten by Duke employees sent another \$95,000 to Republican legislators and groups that support their campaigns — nearly five times the amount provided to North Carolina’s Democratic legislators over the same time period.” (*Associated Press*, [3/17/14](#); H74, adopted [8/23/13](#))

**Jordan voted against an amendment that would have protected ratepayers from paying the outrageous cost to clean up coal ash.**

➤ **NOTE:** *Republicans voted to table S729, A16. (S729, A16, amendment tabled, [7/2/14](#))*

**Republicans voted down a House amendment that would have protected ratepayers from paying for coal ash cleanup.** (S729, [Amendment 16](#), Motion to Table, [7/3/14](#))

**Dan River spill under investigation spewed “enough toxic sludge to fill 73 Olympic-sized pools” which “contains arsenic, lead, mercury and a host of other chemicals.”** “The spill at a Duke Energy plant in Eden spewed enough toxic sludge to fill 73 Olympic-sized pools, turning the river water a milky gray for miles. It was the third-largest coal ash spill in U.S. history. State health officials have advised that people not eat fish from the river and to avoid contact with the water. Coal ash contains arsenic, lead, mercury and a host of other chemicals that are highly toxic to humans and aquatic life.” (AP, [2/13/14](#))

**Month after Dan River spill, Duke Energy cited for pumping coal ash waste into Cape Fear River illegally.** “North Carolina regulators say Duke Energy illegally pumped 61 million gallons of contaminated water from a coal ash pit into the Cape Fear River, marking the eighth time in less than a month the nation’s largest electricity company has been cited for

environmental violations. The pumping violated the terms of Duke's wastewater permit at its Cape Fear Plant, State Department of Environment and Natural Resources spokesman Jamie Kreutzer said Thursday. Kritzer said the agency has issued Duke a formal notice of violation, which could result in hefty fines." (AP, [3/21/14](#))