



2008 Annual Report



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Work of Golden LEAF



The Golden Long-term Economic Advancement Foundation (L.E.A.F), Inc. was created by the General Assembly to manage one-half of North Carolina's share of funds from the Master Settlement Agreement with tobacco companies.

The 15-member Board of Directors is appointed by the North Carolina Governor, the President Pro-Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Foundation is dedicated to the long-term economic well-being of tobacco-dependent, economically distressed and rural North Carolina communities.

Golden LEAF makes grants to 501(c)(3) nonprofits and governmental entities. Its priorities include agriculture, job creation and retention, and workforce preparedness. The Foundation also funds projects that provide education and other opportunities to support and develop economic growth in tobacco-dependent, economically distressed, and/or rural communities.

In 2008, the Foundation awarded 102 grants totaling \$129,126,336 to eligible entities. [Click here to see 2008 grants.](#)

The Foundation has an open door policy and encourages potential applicants to contact staff about project ideas or other issues before submitting an application or letter of inquiry.

Visit www.goldenleaf.org or call 888-684-8404 to learn more about Golden LEAF's grant opportunities and application processes.

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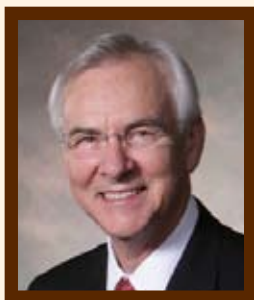
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New ways of doing business



JESSIE THOMAS BUNN
Chairman of the Board



DAN GERLACH
President

To the people of North Carolina —

There is no doubt that these are very tough economic times. It will take hard work, determination, and creativity on the part of all of us to build the North Carolina we want to have.

Recently, the Golden LEAF Board of Directors took bold action to address our challenges. Rather than shrink our grantsmaking efforts, the Board authorized new initiatives, new funding strategies and new ways of doing business.

While other foundations have been forced to reduce their grantsmaking, Golden LEAF will maintain its giving. For the coming year, the Board:

- Strengthened its commitment to Tier One counties across North Carolina with up to \$35 million for its Community Assistance Initiative;
- Provided \$10 million in economic assistance for projects across North Carolina that create or add substantial jobs and investment;
- Provided \$10 million for the development of two new initiatives: (a) to grow North Carolina agriculture jobs, markets and farm income through special focus and (b) to ensure that the growing aerospace industry has the highly-qualified workers it needs to hire now;
- Created a new \$3.5 million initiative to provide the necessary training to get North Carolinians to available good-paying jobs as quickly as possible;

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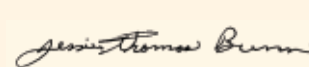
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- Earmarked over \$3 million for scholarships for children from rural counties, especially farm families, to attend college;
- Replaced the annual grants cycle with an Open Grants Program. The Open Grants Program will allow for acceptance of year-round proposals, ensure faster decisions from the Golden LEAF Board, and reduce administrative burden for our grantees;
- Almost doubled direct Foundation investment in Tiers 1 and 2 counties through Access Capital, an investor in community-development projects in rural areas;
- Provided \$5 million to support the creation of a new loan-guarantee program to leverage over \$25 million in new loans for qualified businesses needing access to capital in these tough times;
- Committed to seek ways to complement the federal stimulus package, in order to make sure North Carolina gets the full benefit; and
- Cut the Foundation's administrative budget substantially to allow more resources for grants.

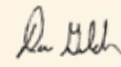
At the Golden LEAF Foundation, we are unwavering in our determination to provide support for projects that will help to grow jobs, strengthen communities, and build the knowledge, talent, and skill of North Carolinians. The Foundation is a great reason to be hopeful about the future of economically distressed, tobacco-dependent, and rural counties.

We look forward to new and continued partnerships for the betterment of North Carolina.

Sincerely,



Jessie Thomas Bunn
Chairman of the Board



Dan Gerlach
President

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Grant Opportunities & Initiatives

Golden LEAF is a foundation dedicated to funding projects that pledge to bring significant economic improvement to the tobacco-dependent, economically distressed, and/or rural communities of North Carolina.

Golden LEAF currently has three programs open to all eligible entities seeking grants: *Open Grants Program*, *Economic Catalyst Cycle* and *Golden LEAF Opportunities for Work (GLOW)*.

The Foundation also has a process targeting the needs of Tier 1 designated communities: the *Community Assistance Initiative*.

For the fiscal year 2010, the Board of Directors earmarked \$10 million for special initiatives in agriculture and aerospace that will reflect the current needs and priorities of these industry sectors, especially as they relate to jobs. The Foundation is currently working on finalizing priorities for these initiatives. Visit *our website* regularly or sign up to receive *Golden LEAF e-mail updates* to find out more about these initiatives as information becomes available.



We welcome eligible entities to submit a grant application or letter of inquiry* for projects that are consistent with Golden LEAF's priorities. The Foundation encourages potential applicants to contact staff to discuss project ideas or other issues before submitting a grant application or letter of inquiry*. *Click here for a listing of Golden LEAF staff.* If you would like to receive updates about the Foundation and its grantsmaking, *click here to sign up for our newsletter and other mailings.*

**See individual grant processes to know if you need to first submit a letter of inquiry or an application.*

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Open Grants Program

The Open Grants Program places high priority on the areas of agriculture, job creation and retention, and workforce preparedness. Projects that focus on other opportunities to support and develop economic strength in tobacco-dependent, economically distressed and/or rural communities are also welcomed. In light of the economic downturn, Golden LEAF will be looking for opportunities to complement and leverage federal and state stimulus programs to increase the impact of its grantsmaking on targeted communities.

The Open Grants Program will begin July 1, 2009 and replaces the former Golden LEAF Annual Grants Cycle. This program will make it easier for applicants to submit proposals to Golden LEAF and make funding opportunities available throughout the year. *For more information on the Open Grants Program and how to apply, click here.*

Economic Catalyst Cycle

The Economic Catalyst Cycle is a program that focuses on job creation and/or retention projects associated with business locations or expansions in North Carolina that are at risk without participation from Golden LEAF. Projects submitted by eligible entities must meet specific criteria to be considered for funding.

Check the website for deadlines.

Golden LEAF Opportunities for Work

Golden LEAF Opportunities for Work (GLOW) is a short-term, non-degree, workforce development grant initiative that supports vocational and/or technical training programs targeting identified employment opportunities in tobacco-dependent, economically distressed and/or rural communities. Workers trained through this initiative should become eligible for immediate placement in permanent, full-time jobs requiring their new skills.

Golden LEAF Opportunities for Work has three deadlines annually for as long as funds are available: April 30, June 30 and August 31.

For more information on Golden LEAF Opportunities for Work and how to apply, click here.

Scholarships

Golden LEAF awards grants for scholarships to three post secondary school systems in North Carolina:

North Carolina Community College System

University of North Carolina System

North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities

Scholarships are available to students from rural counties who demonstrate need. Priority for scholarships is given to students from families adversely affected by the decline of the tobacco industry. *For more information, click here.*

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Community Assistance Initiative

The Golden LEAF Community Assistance Initiative is a grants program that targets communities of need and provides direct support for projects that significantly enhance the quality of life for citizens within those communities by stimulating economic activity or providing assistance in overcoming barriers to economic transition or community progress. The Community Assistance Initiative currently targets North Carolina's Tier One counties (*click here to see your county's Tier designation*) which are considered the most economically distressed counties in the state.

With Golden LEAF staff and board members working directly with county leaders and citizens, proposals are developed following a process whereby the community reaches consensus on the key issues and objectives that it would like to target and then establishes a priority list of projects that have the most potential for positively affecting the key issues and achieving the desired objectives. There is a reserve of \$2 million per county, but grant award amounts may vary. Contact *Courtney Mills* (cmills@goldenleaf.org) or *Pat Cabe* (pcabe@goldenleaf.org) for more information about this initiative.

Agriculture and Aerospace Initiatives

The Foundation Board of Directors has earmarked a combined \$10 million for the development of two new initiatives: (a) to increase North Carolina agriculture jobs, markets and farm income in specific areas and (b) to ensure that the growing aerospace industry has the highly-qualified workers it needs to hire now. The Foundation is working to finalize priorities for these initiatives. *Check the Golden LEAF website for updates.*

Financial Markets Initiative

The Foundation Board of Directors has earmarked \$5 million to provide access to capital for North Carolina businesses. Tight credit has held back economic opportunities and the Foundation will leverage other private and public efforts to get capital flowing.

Staff is working on the details of the program, so keep checking the Foundation website.

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News *Stories about the Foundation and its grantsmaking. Click on title for full coverage.*

In 2008, the Golden LEAF Foundation was in transition. The Foundation was making changes in its leadership and reevaluating its programs. It made its largest grant award since inception, which alone created over 1,000 jobs. The Board ramped up its Community Assistance Initiative, a grant process directly assisting Tier 1 counties. It also refined the N.C. 1:1 Laptop Initiative pilot program, a partnership with NC organizations to provide computers to students and teachers across the state, primarily focusing on rural communities.

As the Foundation has modified its strategies, it remains steadfast to its commitment to the economic advancement of tobacco-dependent, economically distressed and rural North Carolina communities.

Click on the links below to view news updates and editions of the Foundation's e-newsletter that covers the Foundation's activities, grant opportunities and grants at work around the state.

LEAF Lines e-newsletters

Spring 2009 Edition

Winter 2009 Edition

Fall 2008 Edition

Golden LEAF News updates

May 2009

April 2009

March 2009

February 2009

January 2009

December 2008

November 2008

October 2008

Governor's budget advisor to take Golden LEAF president's post

[WRAL](#)

Dan Gerlach will replace Valeria Lee as president of the Golden LEAF Foundation.

Golden LEAF announces new grantsmaking strategies to strengthen state's economy

[Golden LEAF](#)

The Golden LEAF Foundation announces its new grantsmaking strategies to strengthen North Carolina's economy.

NC foundation targets training for jobs open now

[Fayetteville Observer](#)

The Golden LEAF Foundation announced a \$3.5 million initiative to get vocational/ technical training to North Carolina's workforce for jobs that are currently available.

Dalton announces help for small biz

[NBC - 17](#)

Lt. Gov. Walter Dalton and Golden LEAF President Dan Gerlach announce a Small Business Assistance Fund to provide low-interest loans for small businesses struggling to access capital during the economic and credit crisis.

Dan Gerlach Interview

[UNC-TV NC Now](#)

Dan Gerlach, President of the Golden LEAF Foundation, discusses the organization's mission, projects and priorities.

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Spirit of Expansion

Site Selection Magazine

A former Boeing division widens its 'global footprint' in Eastern North Carolina. Golden LEAF awarded a \$100 million grant to support this effort.

Magazine deems N.C. best state for business

The Daily Tar Heel

Golden LEAF has contributed grant dollars to aid in training and locating jobs to North Carolina which helped get North Carolina selected as the top business climate in the country, even in times of economic distress. Site Selection Magazine recently named North Carolina as the top state for business for the seventh time in eight years.

Golden LEAF Visit to the Mountains

WTOE - FM

The Golden LEAF Foundation will be implementing the Community Assistance Initiative in Mitchell County around July or August to get to work helping a community in need.

Golden LEAF Global GAP Initiative

NC Ag Exports

The NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is taking applications for a program, supported by a Golden LEAF grant, intended to give North Carolina produce exporters a competitive edge in Europe and other international markets.



Gov. Perdue Launches "12 in 6" Worker Training Initiative

Golden LEAF website

Golden LEAF President Dan Gerlach joins Governor Beverly Perdue, N.C. Community College System President Scott Ralls, N.C. Department of Commerce Secretary Keith Crisco at a press conference to announce the "12 in 6" worker training initiative. The Golden LEAF Foundation's Golden LEAF Opportunities for Work (GLOW) program announced in March is a \$3.5 million initiative that will complement the Governor's plan to get North Carolinians back to work quickly.

IOI adding 40 new jobs

Cherokee Scout

With assistance from a Golden LEAF grant, trained workers now have new jobs in Cherokee County.

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Stories about the Foundation and its grantsmaking. Click on title for full coverage.

The ground is set for Aviation Research and Development Commerce Park

ECSU Headlines

Golden LEAF provided \$2 million to the Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Aviation Research and Development Commerce Park. The park will generate 500 well-paying, aviation-related jobs to Elizabeth City and Pasquotank County.

Spirit AeroSystems breaks ground on 1,000-job TransPark site

Employment Crossing News

Golden LEAF gave a \$100 million grant that will be used to construct the buildings that Spirit will lease. The following links show a video clip discussing Spirit AeroSystems.

Distressed communities find aid through grant

The Appalachian

The Golden LEAF Foundation has provided a grant of \$764,348 to provide economically distressed communities with four master of public administration graduates. The graduates will be responsible for aiding the economic development of these communities.

The benefits of sharing

Surry Messenger

The Surry Messenger describes Surry County's journey through the Golden LEAF Community Assistance Initiative. The county recently received just over \$2 million in awards to support workforce training and infrastructure needs.



Hyde County Gets Economic Boost

WITN – 7

Golden LEAF's Community Assistance Initiative distributes \$1.3 million grants for community programs.

Wilkes to get \$2 million from Golden LEAF

Wilkes Journal Patriot

Golden LEAF's Board of Directors Marketing and Communications Chairman Michael Almond and Senior Vice President Mark Sorrells announced at a Wilkes EDC retreat that the Foundation will be implementing the Community Assistance Initiative in Wilkes County.

NC Fund Spurs Rural Transition From Tobacco

WCNC.com

The Golden LEAF Foundation, supported by money North Carolina receives from the landmark tobacco settlement, has pumped about \$366 million into helping the state's poorer communities.

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Stories about the Foundation and its grantsmaking. Click on title for full coverage.

Golden LEAF seeks what's important to people

Roanoke Rapids Daily Herald

More than 100 people representing Halifax County organizations and causes attended a meeting to begin the Community Assistance Initiative process.

Golden LEAF has \$2 million for Vance County

The Daily Dispatch

Vance County residents met with Golden LEAF officials to learn about the Foundation's Community Assistance Initiative. Already 11 Tier 1 counties have received 40 grants totaling over \$20 million in funding under the program.

Buy Haywood Online Video

Buy Haywood website

Golden LEAF awarded the Buy Haywood Market Development Project in 2007 and 2008 for marketing and food safety training for local farmers and farm workers, to test the market potential of Haywood County branded products, and to increase sales of Haywood County products through local and regional retailers/grocers, wholesalers, restaurants, and consumers.

NC LEAP receives LEAF gift

NC Lawyer Online

Golden LEAF awarded NC LEAP, a project of the North Carolina Bar Association Foundation that provides free legal services to income eligible, low-wealth business owners, a \$51,000 grant to support program operations in Tier 1 and Tier 2 counties.

Grant helps transform old factory into high-tech learning center

The News Herald

Burke County was awarded a \$350,000 grant from the Golden LEAF Foundation to assist the Foothills Allied Health Higher Education Center transform an old factory into high-tech learning center.

Students bone up on metalwork skills: College builds program to benefit machinists

Rocky Mount Telegram

Machining students at Nash Community College have the chance to boost their resumes now that the college is accredited by the National Institute for Metalworking Skills. The college began the accreditation process two years ago after receiving a grant from the Golden LEAF Foundation.

Laptops Launch: "Wonderful change has come"

The Daily Southerner

Edgecombe County celebrated their 1:1 Laptop Initiative with state Rep. Joe Tolson, state Sen. Clark Jenkins, representatives from Golden LEAF and the NC 1:1 Laptop Initiative, as well as local officials and citizens. Golden LEAF provided the funding to help make laptops available for every high school student in Edgecombe County.

ASAP launches farm-to-hospital program

MountainX

Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project (ASAP) is launching a Farm to Hospital pilot program, funded in part by a Golden LEAF grant. The project aims to both improve public health and sustain local farms.

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Stories about the Foundation and its grantmaking. Click on title for full coverage.

Laptop Initiative Energizes Edgecombe Schools

NC Magazine

The Golden LEAF Foundation provided laptops to all Edgecombe County Public High School students. Part of a pilot program, called the NC 1:1 Laptop Initiative, Golden LEAF and public and private partners are giving rural students the tools to become a highly skilled workforce.

\$900,000 to help give computers to students: Wilkes schools to use grant by Golden LEAF Foundation

Winston-Salem Journal

Golden LEAF awarded a \$900,000 grant to provide laptop computers to high-school students in Wilkes County. The grant will be used to provide laptop computers for all of the school system's 700 or so seniors to use when they start school next fall and will provide funds for needed software and equipment.

Growers get sales boost by branding

Carolina-Virginia Farmer

A group of 15 Haywood County farmers have their produce on the shelves of chain grocery stores such as Food Lion, Bi-Lo, Publix and Fresh Market, thanks to a grant from the Golden LEAF Foundation.



Laptop Initiative – Hunt High School

UNC – TV

A series on NC Rising features the NC 1:1 Laptop Initiative at work at Hunt High School. Golden LEAF, the NC General Assembly, SAS Institute, Department of Public Instruction, New Schools Project and the Friday Institute are working to develop a strategic approach to technology-enabled learning in North Carolina public high schools.

Farmers market to benefit from \$70,000 grant

The Fayetteville Observer

A \$70,000 grant from the Golden LEAF Foundation will allow the Columbus County Community Farmers Market to hire its first full-time manager, marketing consultant. Start-up funding for three years will allow the manager to work with three cooperating organizations in southeastern North Carolina.

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CY 2008 Grant Info

In 2008, the Golden LEAF Foundation awarded 102 grants totaling \$129,126,336 to a diverse set of projects for job creation and retention, workforce training, scholarships, agriculture, technology for high schools and community development.

[Click here to see the list of CY 2008 awards.](#)

The grant awards are broken down according to the following Golden LEAF grant programs/ initiatives:

- 59 Annual Cycle grants totaling \$10,358,273 to organizations in 33 counties,
- 12 Economic Catalyst Cycle grants totaling \$104,936,904 to organizations in 12 counties,
- 22 Community Assistance Initiative grants totaling \$9,081,152 to organizations in 5 counties,
- 3 grants totaling \$3,104,000 for student scholarships to NC colleges and universities, and
- 6 grants totaling \$1,646,007 to organizations for other Foundation initiatives.

Below are descriptions of several of the Foundation's special projects and initiatives.

Golden LEAF has formed a partnership with SAS, the Department of Public Instruction, the Friday Institute and the General Assembly called the NC 1:1 Learning Technology Initiative. The goal of the Initiative is the utilization of technology to improve teaching practices, increase student achievement, and better prepare students for work, citizenship, and life in the 21st century. The pilot program includes high schools from 11 school districts. Golden LEAF and its partners are supporting 14

additional school districts in the planning stages for technology initiatives as a part of an overall instructional reform effort. The initiative will benefit 772 classroom teachers and 11,450 students. Golden LEAF has awarded over \$8 million for projects in the NC 1:1 Learning Technology Initiative.

In 2008, Golden LEAF continued its support of the NC Aerospace Alliance, a government and industry partnership established to help generate opportunities for NC companies to manufacture spare parts for aging military systems. The Alliance will both strengthen the military contracting capabilities of NC companies and leverage the military's presence in NC for the creation of jobs and economic opportunity in the State. Golden LEAF has awarded 6 grants totaling \$11,063,336 towards this initiative. To date, it is estimated that 1,358 new jobs have been created and 75 jobs retained with the support of this initiative.

Golden LEAF's largest award to date – \$100,000,000 grant to the Global TransPark Authority in Kinston – is expected to create over 1,000 full-time jobs with Spirit AeroSystems. Spirit has pledged to create these jobs over a six-year performance period. The average wage at the manufacturing plant will be \$48,122 a year. Additionally, the construction of the new facility is creating the equivalent of 800 new jobs for North Carolina businesses. The 800 construction-related jobs will pay an average of \$36,000 a year and will last about 18 months.

As of April 2009, the Foundation awarded 762 grants totaling over \$374 million since its inception.

[Click here to search Golden LEAF's grant awards.](#)

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Financials

The Foundation's financial statements undergo an annual audit, which is conducted by Ernst & Young, LLP. They audited our financial statements for the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, which are presented in conformity with the accounting principles and reporting guidelines established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), and expressed an unqualified opinion on these financial statements. A copy of Ernst & Young's audit report dated October 15, 2008 may be viewed [by clicking here](#).

Due to a volatile market, asset values have declined significantly since June of last year.

Statement of Net Assets and Governmental Fund Balance Sheet June 30, 2008

		General Fund	Reclassifications and Eliminations	Statement of Net Assets
ASSETS				
	Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 532,346	\$ —	\$ 532,346
	Sales tax refund and other receivables	\$39,256.00	—	39,256
	Prepaid items	33,711	—	33,711
	Investments	726,906,887	—	726,906,887
	Capital assets-nondepreciable	—	927,771	927,771
	Capital assets-depreciable, net	—	3,274,155	3,274,155
	Total assets	\$ 727,512,200	\$ 4,201,926	\$ 731,714,126
LIABILITIES				
	Accounts payable	\$ 714,814	\$ —	\$ 714,814
	Accrued liabilities	41,626	—	41,626
	Grants payable	159,524,974	—	159,524,974
	Total liabilities	160,281,414	—	160,281,414
NET ASSETS				
	Reserved for prepaid items	33,711	(33,711)	—
	Invested in capital assets, net of debt	—	4,201,926	4,201,926
	Unrestricted	567,197,075	33,711	567,230,786
		567,230,786	4,201,926	571,432,712
	Total liabilities and fund balances/net assets	\$ 727,512,200	\$ 4,201,926	\$ 731,714,126

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***Statement of Activities and Governmental Fund Revenues,
Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance June 30, 2008***

		General Fund	Reclassifications and Eliminations	Statement of Activities
REVENUES	Proceeds from state settlement	\$ 79,976,781	\$ —	\$ 79,976,781
	Investment income	(16,676,071)	—	(16,676,071)
	Other income	54,236	—	54,236
	Total revenues	63,354,946	—	63,354,946
EXPENSES	Grant distributions	137,954,719	—	137,954,719
	Administrative costs	2,796,432	—	2,796,432
	Capital outlays	2,935,636	(2,935,636)	—
	Loss on fixed assets	—	300	300
	Depreciation expense	—	61,926	61,926
	Bad debt expense	32	—	32
	Unrelated business income tax	8,872	—	8,872
	Total expenses	143,695,691	(2,873,410)	140,822,281
	Changes in net assets	(80,340,745)	2,873,410	(77,467,335)
	Net assets, at beginning of year	647,571,531	1,328,516	648,900,047
	Net assets, at end of year	\$ 567,230,786	\$ 4,201,926	\$ 571,432,712

Board of Directors

Jessie Thomas Bunn
Board Chairman

Raleigh, NC
Flue-Cured Tobacco
Cooperative Stabilization Corporation
Appointed by Speaker of the House

Michael A. Almond

Piney Creek, NC
Appalachian Regional Development Institute
Appointed by Speaker of the House

Wade Barber

Pittsboro, NC
Wade Barber, PLLC
Appointed by Speaker of the House

Julius L. Chambers

Charlotte, NC
Ferguson Stein Chambers
Appointed by Speaker of the House

William “Billy” Clarke

Asheville, NC
Roberts & Stevens
Appointed by President Pro Tem of the Senate

S. Lawrence Davenport

Pactolus, NC
J.P. Davenport and Son, Inc.
Appointed by Speaker of the House

John H. Harmon

New Bern, NC
Attorney
Appointed by President Pro Tem of the Senate

Richard Holder

Kinston, NC
Harvey Fertilizer & Gas Co.
Appointed by Governor

Frank B. Holding

Smithfield, NC
First Citizens Bank
Appointed by President Pro Tem of the Senate

John D. Merritt

Wilmington, NC
Consultant
Appointed by Governor

Charles W. Penny

Rocky Mount, NC
City of Rocky Mount
Appointed by Governor

Ruffin Poole

Raleigh, NC
McGuireWoods
Appointed by Governor

Edgar M. Roach, Jr.

Chapel Hill, NC
McGuireWoods
Retired Virginia Power/N.C. Power
Appointed by Governor

David T. Stephenson, III

Lumberton, NC
Farmer/ S&P Tobacco Inc.
Appointed by President Pro Tem of the Senate

Debbie E. Worley

Princeton, NC
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Appointed by President Pro Tem of the Senate

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