

# North Carolina Governor



## THE ISSUES

**ROY COOPER**



DEMOCRAT • INCUMBENT

**DAN FOREST**



REPUBLICAN

See <a href="#">Guides.vote</a> for online guides with links and sources.	Volunteer for Roy Cooper <a href="http://roycooper.com">roycooper.com</a>	Volunteer for Dan Forest <a href="http://danforest.com">danforest.com</a>
<b>AFFORDABLE CARE ACT</b> Support Affordable Care Act (ACA), known as Obamacare? Support expansion of Medicaid to more low-income citizens?	Yes. Repealing the ACA <a href="#">“may be even worse than previous proposals.”</a> Supports Medicaid expansion: <a href="#">“Should be one of the easiest decisions a policymaker can make.”</a>	No. Opposes the expansion of Medicaid. <a href="#">“The government’s just not best suited for these kinds of delivery mechanisms. ... They need to be in private hands.”</a>
<b>CAMPAIGN FINANCE</b> Campaigns must disclose large funders?	Yes. <a href="#">Vetoed a bill that made it harder to prosecute campaign finance violations.</a>	No position found, but in 2017 a super-PAC backing him as lieutenant governor received a <a href="#">\$1 million donation from a single donor.</a>
<b>CLIMATE CHANGE</b> Consider human-caused climate change a serious threat?	Yes. Climate change <a href="#">“makes storms larger and more powerful and intensifies heavy rainfalls and droughts. North Carolinians, unfortunately, know this the hard way.”</a>	No. Climate change is <a href="#">“the religion of the left,”</a> along with Black Lives Matter, Me Too and gun control.
<b>CLIMATE CHANGE</b> Address as a top priority by taxing or limiting output of greenhouse gases?	Yes. Wants <a href="#">tax credits for electric cars</a> and to <a href="#">reduce emissions from electric power generation to 70% of 2005 levels by 2030.</a>	No. <a href="#">Lower state gas tax, expand gas and oil extraction onshore and offshore.</a> State <a href="#">“should strive to be energy independent.”</a>
<b>SUPREME COURT</b> Support Brett Kavanaugh nomination?	No position found.	Yes. <a href="#">Kavanaugh knows “the Constitution is not a living, breathing document.”</a>
<b>COVID-19</b> Tighten or loosen restrictions to control pandemic?	Tighten. <a href="#">Has been cautious in lifting restrictions. Implemented program to provide financial help to those told to isolate.</a> Local school districts <a href="#">choose mix of online and in-person, with restrictions, or all online.</a>	Loosen. <a href="#">Fewer restrictions.</a> Initially <a href="#">sued Cooper over restrictions.</a> <a href="#">Allow “counties with no virus at all” ... “to still flourish.”</a> Opposes restrictions <a href="#">like required mask wearing and staggered schedules</a> for schools.
<b>EDUCATION</b> Use public funding for private and/or for-profit schools?	No. Opposes <a href="#">“vouchers because of the lack of accountability. ... Instead, we need to invest in our public schools.”</a>	Yes. <a href="#">Increase public funding for charter schools.</a> Expand vouchers to pay for private schools, <a href="#">“giving more choices to parents.”</a>
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b> Tighten or loosen environmental regulations?	Tighten. <a href="#">“We’ve ordered Duke Energy to dig up remaining coal ash ponds in North Carolina.”</a> <a href="#">Forced TVA to clean up emissions.</a>	Loosen. Asked Trump EPA <a href="#">to eliminate Obama clean water rules.</a> <a href="#">“There is a place for good regulatory policy ... but I also believe in innovation over regulation.”</a>
<b>FINANCIAL REGULATION</b> Tighten or loosen regulations of banks and credit card companies?	Tighten. Pushed to pass <a href="#">first U.S. anti-predatory lending law and financial fraud protections.</a>	Loosen. <a href="#">“Having fewer regulations fosters a spirit of innovation in our state.”</a>

ISSUES	COOPER (D)	FOREST (R)
<b>GUN RULES</b> Enact more restrictive legislation on guns, such as more background checks, or “red flag” laws.	Yes. <a href="#">Signed executive directive strengthening background checks. Pushed for legislation on gun safety and red flag protection orders,</a> prohibiting ownership by individuals who are a danger to themselves or others.	No. <a href="#">Supports Second Amendment sanctuaries exempt from gun laws. “Yet to see a ‘red flag’ bill that adequately protects the constitutional rights of law-abiding Americans.”</a>
<b>IMMIGRATION</b> Create path to citizenship for DACA residents brought to U.S. as children?	<a href="#">Yes. Signed letter with 10 other governors to the leaders of the U.S. House and Senate, urging extension of DACA program.</a>	No position found.
<b>IMMIGRATION</b> Support tighter immigration restrictions?	No. Vetoed bill requiring sheriffs to cooperate with ICE. Would hurt ability of local law enforcement <a href="#">“to protect their counties.”</a>	Yes. Local sheriffs should be cooperating with federal agencies like ICE <a href="#">“to keep violent, illegal criminals from being arbitrarily released back into our communities.”</a>
<b>LEGAL ABORTION</b> Keep legal or ban?	Legal. <a href="#">Vetoed</a> bill imposing prison time on doctors who don’t revive a fetus that survives an abortion. It would <a href="#">“criminalize” them for “a practice that simply does not exist.”</a>	Ban. Is running as a <a href="#">“pro-life leader.” “I firmly believe that the day is going to come in America where we’re going to look back on abortion ... just like slavery.”</a>
<b>LGBTQ RIGHTS</b> Support LGBTQ rights, including same-sex marriage and protection from discrimination on sexual orientation?	Yes. <a href="#">Supports marriage equality. Opposed bill invalidating same-sex marriage. Signed order prohibiting discrimination for “sexual orientation, gender identity or expression.”</a>	No. <a href="#">Accepts same-sex marriage as “law of the land.” But a child raised by “a mother and a father” has “greater potential in life.”</a> Nothing found on discrimination protection.
<b>LGBTQ RIGHTS</b> Support HB2, bill requiring transgender people to use bathroom corresponding to the sex on their birth certificate?	No. Opposed, <a href="#">called it a “dark cloud.” Signed compromise repeal.</a>	Yes. Opposed repeal of bill: Called pressure from NCAA <a href="#">“a new form of corporate extortion from an unaccountable, out-of-state, non-elected, tax-exempt organization.”</a>
<b>MINIMUM WAGE</b> Raise state hourly minimum wage above current \$7.25?	Yes. Will <a href="#">“work with the General Assembly to see how high we can get it. \$15 is an admirable goal.”</a>	No recent position found. In 2012 called minimum wage laws <a href="#">“an unfair intrusion into the labor market” that “hurt the employment opportunities for unskilled labor.”</a>
<b>PLANNED PARENTHOOD</b> Can Planned Parenthood receive public funds for non-abortion-related care?	Yes. Signed letter with other governors opposing administration efforts <a href="#">“to gut women’s access to family planning services.”</a>	No. <a href="#">“Planned Parenthood was created ... to destroy the entire black race.” Has said the state should not fund the organization.</a>
<b>POLICE/COMMUNITY ISSUES</b> Restrict police use of force and increase public oversight?	Yes. <a href="#">Created task force on racial equity in criminal justice</a> and a new center to <a href="#">track statistics and “improve training related to the use of force.”</a>	<a href="#">No. “I will always DEFEND the police.” “Our police officers need to be able to do their jobs.”</a>
<b>TAXES</b> Support increase in state taxes?	Preserve tax base. <a href="#">“When business has a choice between further cuts in corporate taxes or investments in our teachers, I hope you will say investments in our teachers.”</a>	No. <a href="#">Signed the “Tax Protection Pledge” pledging to oppose and veto any and all efforts to pass a net tax hike.</a>
<b>VOTING RULES</b> Support stricter ID requirements and other rules on voting?	No. Voter ID <a href="#">“is a solution for no problem.” Vetoed bill that would set “barriers to voting that will trap honest voters.”</a>	Yes. <a href="#">“The only reason to oppose photo voter ID is if you intend to commit fraud at the ballot box.”</a>

[Campus Election Engagement Project](#) is a nonpartisan effort to help colleges engage students in elections. Sources include [Votesmart.org](#), [FactCheck.org](#), [Politifact.com](#) and candidate statements. [Vote411.org](#) and [Ballotready.org](#) offer guides to local races.