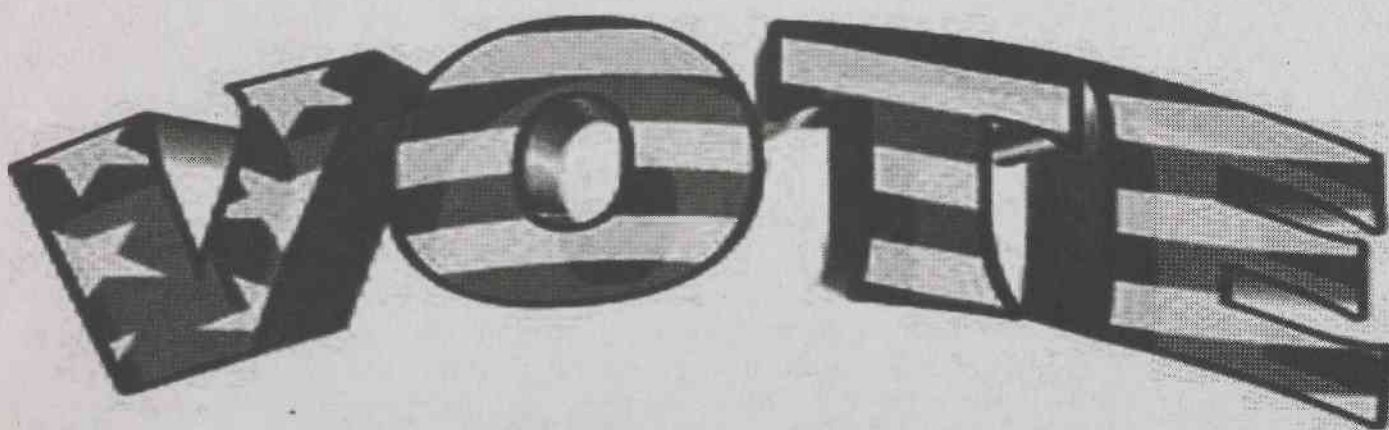


& Politics

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Where they stand on the issues!

	John Kerry <i>Democrat</i>	George W. Bush <i>Republican</i>	Ralph Nader <i>Reform Party</i>	Michael Badnarik <i>Libertarian Party</i>
Homeland Security	Wants to add 40,000 troops to the military; voted yes on military pay raises, yes on base closures, yes on missile defense system.	Tripled funding for homeland security; wants lowest possible number of nukes consistent with security; believes U.S. military is key to preserving peace.	Supports test ban treaty and arms control; wants to reduce size of the military by \$100B; believes arms race is driven by corporate demand.	Believes mid-east hatred comes from U.S. actions, not U.S. lifestyle; wants to bring home all U.S. troops from all countries.
Abortion	No restrictions on abortion; wants to expand stem cell research.	Wants to ban partial-birth abortion; supports parental notification; supports adoption tax credit; wants to limit embryonic stem cell research.	Believes government should have no involvement in abortion debate.	Wants to make abortion illegal, but leave it to the states; believes government should not be involved.
Civil Rights	Questions practicality of affirmative action; voted no on prohibiting same-sex marriage; dislikes Defense of Marriage Act.	Wants to protect marriage against activist judges; wants constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage.	Supports gay marriage; believes African American progress is too slow; believes women are second-class citizens in school athletics.	Wants to keep government out of the bedroom; believes affirmative action is almost as bad as slavery; believes Patriot Act violates Bill of Rights.
Economy	Wants to end corporate welfare; wants to follow Clinton plan to reduce deficit; wants to keep most of Bush tax cuts.	Wants to halve deficit in five years; wants to simplify the tax code to stimulate growth; wants to provide assistance to new small businesses.	Top priorities; infrastructure, poverty, preventive health.	Wants to base currency on gold to avoid inflation.
Crime	Opposes death penalty except for 9-11 terrorists; wants stricter sentencing for hate-crimes; wants to require DNA testing for federal executions.	Believes America is the land of the second chance; supports registration for sexual criminals; wants to limit frivolous lawsuits.	Opposes death penalty; believes decreasing unemployment, as opposed to enforcement, reduces crime.	Wants to give restitution to victims instead of punishing criminals; wants to end mandatory minimums for drug offenders.
Education	Voted no on school vouchers in D.C.; voted yes on national education standards; voted no on allowing voluntary prayer in school.	Wants to spend \$25B for reading, Pell Grants and charters; wants to give college tuition tax credits; increased student funding by 60% in 2003.	Wants to abandon standardized testing and focus on teaching civic skills; believes investing in k-12 education will reduce poverty.	Believes in deregulating schools; government should not be involved in education.
Environment	Voted no on more funding for forest roads and fish habitat; voted yes on requiring EPA risk assessments; wants to safeguard the environment and grow the economy.	Wants \$4.9B to repair "crumbling" national parks; natural resources and environmental funding highest ever in FY04.	Wants to end all commercial logging in national forests; believes corporate collectivism leads to ecological disaster.	No stance on record.
Foreign Policy	Supports multilateral cooperative internationalism; wants to globalize with U.S. pre-eminence	Believes America must keep its word; believes in pre-emptive strikes for self defense; keep sanctions against Cuba; patrol borders, invest in Latin America. Wants medical liability reform to make health care affordable; opposes doctor assisted suicide.	Believes corporate activity destroys the third world; believes supporting human rights is a cornerstone of U.S. policy.	Opposes foreign aid of any kind as non-constitutional; believes interventionist foreign policy creates enemies.
Health Care	Believes health care is not a privilege, but a right for all; voted no on banning human cloning.		Wants 3.5% payroll tax to fund universal health care; wants to use Canadian system as a model for U.S.	Tax credits for personal health savings accounts; excess regulation causes high prices.



Democrats – North Carolina

- President – John Kerry
- Vice President – John Edwards
- U.S. Senate – Erskin Bowles
- Governor – Mike Easley
- U.S. Congress, 1st congressional district – G.K. Butterfield

For a complete list of Democratic candidates from North Carolina and other facts, go on-line to www.ncdp.org.

Republicans – North Carolina

- President – George W. Bush
- Vice President – Dick Cheney
- Senate – Richard Burr
- Governor – Patrick Ballentine
- U.S. Congress, 1st congressional district – Greg Dority

For a complete list of Republican candidates from North Carolina and other facts, go to www.ncgop.org.

Voter Registration

In order to vote in the state of North Carolina, you must meet the following criteria:

- Be a U.S citizen and a resident of the state of North Carolina and the U.S. for 30 days
- Be at least 18 by election time
- Must not be registered to vote in any other county or state
- If convicted of a felony, must have all rights of citizenship restored

Where to register –

- Many political web-sites such as www.ncdp.org and www.ncgop.org offer on-line registration
- Employment Security Commission
- DMV
- Public library
- Public high school
- To register by mail, contact the County Board of Elections office
- To vote by **absentee ballot**, log on to www.fvap.gov and download the Federal Postcard Application and instructions
- All registrations must be completed **25 days prior to Election Day**. For more information on how, when and where to vote, go to www.sboe.state.nc.us.

