

Laurie Buckhout (NC-01) Research Report

Significant Findings

Laurie Buckhout Supported The One Big Beautiful Bill, Which Would Kick Nearly 42,000 People Off Their Health Insurance In NC-01 And Threaten Food Assistance For More Than 60,000 Households In The District

- ✓ April 2026: Laurie Buckhout said the One Big Beautiful Bill “delivered” for North Carolina.
- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill enacted the largest cuts to Medicaid in history, including a projected \$50 billion loss in North Carolina, slashed local hospital revenue, and would kick nearly 42,000 people in NC-01 off their health insurance.
 - ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill made the largest cuts to Medicaid in the program’s history.
 - ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill would take health insurance away from more than 14 million people.
 - ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill was estimated to kick nearly 42,000 people in NC-01 off their health insurance.
 - ✓ NC Department of Health and Human Services: North Carolina would lose \$50 billion over ten years from the Big Beautiful Bill.
 - ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill was projected to cut nearly \$30 million in revenue to hospitals in NC-01.
- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill threatened to reverse North Carolina’s 2023 Medicaid expansion, risking the health care coverage of nearly 43,000 people in NC-01 and 680,000 statewide.
 - ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill risked triggering the reversal of North Carolina’s Medicaid expansion.
 - ✓ Since North Carolina expanded Medicaid in 2023, nearly 42,600 people in NC-01 and 680,000 people statewide received coverage.
 - ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill’s cuts to Medicaid forced North Carolina to cut provider reimbursement rates, causing some providers to stop taking Medicaid patients and risking clinic closures.
- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill let the ACA tax credits expire, driving up health care costs for more than 67,000 individuals in NC-01 on marketplace plans.
 - ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill and Trump’s tariffs made health care more expensive for more than 67,000 NC-01 residents that got coverage from ACA marketplace plans.
 - ✓ 2025: All subsidized enrollees in NC-01 were expected to see an average premium increase of 138% in their out-of-pocket monthly payments if the ACA tax credits expired.
- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill enacted the largest SNAP cuts in history, threatening food assistance for more than 60,000 households in NC-01.
 - ✓ Center for American Progress: the One Big Beautiful Bill enacted the largest SNAP cuts in the program’s history.

- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bull risked food assistance for 60,848 households in NC-01.
- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill's biggest tax cuts benefited the wealthiest giving them tax cuts three times greater than for working Americans.
- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill gave billions in tax breaks to the ultra-wealthy at the expense of working families.
 - ✓ Institute in Taxation and Economic Policy: the One Big Beautiful Bill would give the richest 1% of Americans \$117 billion in net tax cuts in 2026.
 - ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill's biggest tax cuts benefited the wealthiest giving them tax cuts three times greater than for working Americans.
- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill gutted clean energy tax credits, threatening \$328 million in clean energy investments in NC-01, risking more than 20,000 jobs in North Carolina, and raising energy costs for North Carolina households by \$490.
 - ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill gutted clean energy tax credits.
 - ✓ The Atlantic: Future clean energy projects would cost about 50% more than those that received tax credits.
 - ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill threatened \$328 million in clean energy investments in NC-01.
 - ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill threatened more than 20,000 future clean energy jobs in North Carolina.
 - ✓ Cuts to clean energy tax credits in the One Big Beautiful Bill contributed to the cancellation of a \$1.4 billion battery plant in NC-01, costing more than 1,000 jobs in the district.
 - ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill was estimated to raise energy costs for North Carolina residents by \$490 per year on average.
 - ✓ Clean Energy Buyers Association: The One Big Beautiful Bill's cuts to clean energy tax credits would increase energy costs for North Carolinians by 14.4% as less power was added to the grid.
- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill made health care more expensive for seniors and older Americans.
 - ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill would force nearly \$500 billion in Medicare cuts over the next ten years.
 - ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill made health care more expensive for seniors on Medicare.
 - ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill made health care more expensive for older Americans on ACA marketplace plans.
 - ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill would lower safety and quality standards for nursing homes.
- ✓ Buckhout touted the Rural Health Transformation Program in the Big Beautiful Bill that fell far short of North Carolina's \$50 billion Medicaid funding loss originally caused by the bill.
 - ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill included a \$50 billion fund for rural health care and directed \$213 million to North Carolina for 2026.

- ✓ Buckhout said the solution to rural hospitals' struggle was the rural health funding included in the Big Beautiful Bill.
- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill was slated to cost North Carolina \$50 billion in Medicaid funding.
- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill threatened to close medical providers that offered abortions.
- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill cut Medicaid funds to organizations that provide abortions and sought to "defund" Planned Parenthood.
- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill incentivized insurers for Affordable Care Act plans to drop abortion coverage.

Buckhout Supported The Reckless Tariff Policy That Put Thousands Of Agriculture Jobs At Risk, Jeopardized North Carolina's Tobacco Industry, And Raised Costs For Families

- ✓ Buckhout supported tariffs and defended trade policies claiming the tariffs would lead to lower prices.
- ✓ 2026: Buckhout supported tariffs.
- ✓ 2026: Buckhout's message to North Carolina farmers suffering from tariffs was to wait for trade deals to be finalized.
- ✓ 2026: Buckhout said tariffs would lead to prices going down.
- ✓ North Carolina paid \$3.5 billion in tariff costs.
- ✓ The reckless tariff policy could result in \$695 million in losses and 8,000 lost jobs in North Carolina as North Carolina farmers were struggling to sell their products overseas because of retaliatory tariffs impacting the state's agricultural industry.
- ✓ Tariffs impacting the agriculture industry could result in \$695 million in losses and 8,000 lost jobs in North Carolina and put an industry responsible for one sixth of the state's overall income at risk.
- ✓ North Carolina farmers were struggling to sell their products overseas as countries responded to American trade policies with retaliatory tariffs putting billions of dollars worth of trade at risk in the state.
- ✓ China did not agree to buy U.S. flue-cured tobacco because of the trade war, which threatened North Carolina's economy as the country's largest tobacco producer with over 800 tobacco farms that generated \$557 million in revenue and employed 5,000 workers.
- ✓ China did not agree to buy the 2025 American flue-cured tobacco crop and delayed or refused to pay for purchased 2024 tobacco leaf because of tariffs.
- ✓ North Carolina was number one tobacco producer in the United States accounting for over half of U.S. flue-cured tobacco.
- ✓ China was the leading international buyer of American flue-cured tobacco.
- ✓ China's decision to not buy American flue-cured tobacco threatened to eliminate approximately \$220 million in export value and diminish farm output by 65 million pounds.

- ✓ Tariffs put North Carolina's tobacco industry that had 822 tobacco farms that generated \$557 million in revenue and employed 5,000 workers at risk.
- ✓ 2025: North Carolina experienced a year-over-year decline in tobacco production despite being of the state's largest commodities.
- ✓ The increased tariffs on softwood lumber, upholstered furniture imports, and imports of kitchen cabinets and vanities worsened North Carolina's furniture industry by raising prices even forcing a business to close.
- ✓ October 2025: tariffs increased on softwood lumber, upholstered furniture imports, and imports of kitchen cabinets and vanities.
- ✓ Furniture industry leaders warned new tariffs would not help the industry but worsen it.
- ✓ Home goods prices at High Point Market increased by as much as 42% because of tariffs.
- ✓ Tariffs influenced a North Carolina homeware company to close and fire its staff.
- ✓ The reckless tariffs were one of the largest tax increases in the country's history and were estimated to cost Americans thousands of dollars.
- ✓ 2025: Tariffs were one of the largest tax increases in the country's history.
- ✓ 2026: Tariffs were estimated to cost American families thousands per year.
- ✓ Customers shouldered the burden of tariffs as they raised the price of basic goods like food and clothing.

Buckhout's General Policy Statements Included Weakening The ACA, Praising The Economy, Even On Gas Prices, And Calling For Mass Deportations

- ✓ Buckhout ran her campaign on a suite of standard conservative positions, including calls to weaken the ACA, and cheerlead for Trump's economy.
- ✓ Buckhout said Trump wanted to repeal Obamacare's "worst provisions."
- ✓ Buckhout said "hospitals are businesses."
- ✓ Buckhout praised Trump's economic record, even on gas prices.
- ✓ Buckhout pledged to help Trump conduct mass deportations.

Laurie Buckhout Supported The One Big Beautiful Bill, Which Would Kick Nearly 42,000 People Off Their Health Insurance In NC-01 And Threaten Food Assistance For More Than 60,000 Households In The District

April 2026: Laurie Buckhout Said The One Big Beautiful Bill "Delivered" For North Carolina

April 2026: Buckhout Said The One Big Beautiful Bill "Delivered" For North Carolina Communities. "Don Davis voted NO on funding for Eastern North Carolina in the One Big Beautiful Bill. Republicans passed it anyway and delivered for our communities. Now Davis is trying to claim credit. You can't vote against your district in

Washington and pretend you fought for it back home. Eastern North Carolinians see right through his charade.” [Twitter, Laurie Buckhout, [4/10/26](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Enacted The Largest Cuts To Medicaid In History, Including A Projected \$50 Billion Loss In North Carolina, Slashed Local Hospital Revenue, And Would Kick Nearly 42,000 People In NC-01 Off Their Health Insurance

The One Big Beautiful Bill Made The Largest Cuts To Medicaid In The Program’s History

The Hill: Republicans Passed “The Largest Cuts To Medicaid Since The Program Began In The 1960s.” “Senate Republicans on Tuesday passed the largest cuts to Medicaid since the program began in the 1960s, a move that would erode the social safety net and cause a spike in the number of uninsured Americans over the next decade. The tax and spending bill is projected to cost more than \$3 trillion during that time, but it would be partially paid for with about \$1 trillion in cuts to Medicaid. Almost 12 million lower-income Americans would lose their health insurance by 2034, according to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO).” [The Hill, [7/1/25](#)]

- **The Hill: The Republicans’ Reconciliation Bill Made About \$1 Trillion In Cuts To Medicaid.** “Senate Republicans on Tuesday passed the largest cuts to Medicaid since the program began in the 1960s, a move that would erode the social safety net and cause a spike in the number of uninsured Americans over the next decade. The tax and spending bill is projected to cost more than \$3 trillion during that time, but it would be partially paid for with about \$1 trillion in cuts to Medicaid. Almost 12 million lower-income Americans would lose their health insurance by 2034, according to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO).” [The Hill, [7/1/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Take Health Insurance Away From More Than 14 Million People

KFF: “CBO Estimates Show That The Number Of Uninsured People Will Increase By More Than 14 Million In 2034.” [KFF, [8/20/25](#)]

HEADLINE: “Congress Officially Passes Trump’s Bill To Kick Millions Off Medicaid.” [Rolling Stone, [7/3/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Was Estimated To Kick Nearly 42,000 People In NC-01 Off Their Health Insurance

September 2025: The Joint Economic Committee Minority Estimated 41,781 People In North Carolina’s 1st Congressional District Would Lose Health Insurance By 2034 Due To Congressional Republicans’ Cuts To Medicaid And The ACA. “According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO)’s most recent analysis, President Trump and Congressional Republicans’ cuts to Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act (ACA) would result in 16 million people losing their health insurance by 2034. Using CBO’s analysis released June 4 and other research, the Joint Economic Committee – Minority calculated new estimates of the number of people who would lose health insurance.” [Joint Economic Committee Minority, Press Release, [September 2025](#)]

NC-01: Health Insurance Losses From Cuts To Medicaid And The Affordable Care Act Under The One Big Beautiful Bill		
Est. Number of People Losing Affordable Care Act Coverage	Est. Number of People Losing Medicaid Coverage	Est. Total Number of People Losing Insurance
17,000	24,781	41,781

[Joint Economic Committee Minority, Press Release, [September 2025](#)]

NC Department Of Health And Human Services: North Carolina Would Lose \$50 Billion Over Ten Years From The Big Beautiful Bill

NCDHHS: North Carolina Was Projected To Lose \$50 Billion In Medicaid Funding, Which Would Disproportionately Affect Rural North Carolinians. “The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services announced today it will begin preparing to submit its application to receive funding from the Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP). The program is part of H.R. 1, a federal bill signed into law by President Trump in July to address rural health concerns due to federal cuts to the Medicaid program. NCDHHS has created a website with a link for providers to give feedback now on what should be considered for North Carolina’s application and will host several opportunities for partner organizations to provide input for the state’s RHTP application in the coming months. The Medicaid program will see cuts resulting in approximately \$1 trillion in losses nationwide in the next 10 years due to H.R. 1, including \$49.9 billion in North Carolina, and these cuts will disproportionately impact people who live in rural communities. NCDHHS works to create a healthier state for everyone who calls this state home, including the more than 3 million people in rural North Carolina.” [NCDHHS, [8/14/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Was Projected To Cut Nearly \$30 Million In Revenue To Hospitals In NC-01

Under The One Big Beautiful Bill, Hospitals In NC-01 Were Projected To Lose \$28,351,907 As A Result Of Medicaid Cuts. [Third Way, [GOP Medicaid Cuts Will Decimate Hospitals Nationwide, 7/8/25](#)]

Projected Cuts To NC-01 Hospital Revenue From Medicaid Cuts In The One Big Beautiful Bill		
Hospital	City	Projected Cut To Hospital Revenue
MARIA PARHAM MEDICAL CENTER	HENDERSON	\$774,351
GRANVILLE MEDICAL CENTER	OXFORD	\$2,036,867
NASH HOSPITALS INC	ROCKY MOUNT	\$6,973,933
HALIFAX REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER INC	ROANOKE RAPIDS	\$2,121,412
EAST CAROLINA HEALTH - HERITAGE INC	TARBORO	\$2,290,095
MARTIN GENERAL HOSPITAL	WILLIAMSTON	\$251,861
SENTARA ALBEMARLE REGL MED CTR LLC	ELIZABETH CITY	\$3,322,971
EAST CAROLINA HEALTH	AHOSKIE	\$2,049,879
EAST CAROLINA HEALTH - CHOWAN INC	EDENTON	\$1,685,800
EAST CAROLINA HEALTH-BERTIE	WINDSOR	\$470,213
CAROLINA EAST MEDICAL CENTER	NEW BERN	\$5,949,954
CARTERET COUNTY GENERAL HOSPITAL	MOREHEAD CITY	\$424,571
	Total:	\$28,351,907

[Third Way, [GOP Medicaid Cuts Will Decimate Hospitals Nationwide, 7/8/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Threatened To Reverse North Carolina’s 2023 Medicaid Expansion, Risking The Health Care Coverage Of Nearly 43,000 People In NC-01 And 680,000 Statewide

The One Big Beautiful Bill Risked Triggering The Reversal Of North Carolina’s Medicaid Expansion

June 2025: North Carolina Health News Headline: “‘Big Beautiful Bill’ Could Unravel NC’s Medicaid Expansion: Officials Say Proposed Changes Would Set Off A Trigger Law, Potentially Ending Coverage For Hundreds Of Thousands Of Residents.” [North Carolina Health News, [6/27/25](#)]

North Carolina’s 2023 Medicaid Expansion Law Contained A Provision That Would Automatically End The Program If The Federal Government Stopped Covering 90% Of Its Cost. “Tillis explained in a floor speech Sunday evening that he’d reached out to North Carolina legislators, the N.C. Healthcare Association, and Gov. Josh Stein's administration to gather estimates on the bill’s Medicaid impact locally. He said all agreed that the bill’s

cuts to Medicaid funding would mean more than 600,000 people in his state would lose healthcare. That’s because when the Republican-led state legislature enacted Medicaid expansion in 2023, it included a provision that would automatically end the program if the federal government stops covering 90% of its cost. Tillis warned his fellow Republicans that the move could damage their party’s election prospects. He argued that a broken promise on Medicaid would be similar to former President Barack Obama’s claim that ‘if you like your health care plan, you can keep it’ under the Affordable Care Act. Tillis says Obama’s statement led to GOP victories.” [WUNC, [6/30/25](#)]

June 2025: North Carolina Health News: The One Big Beautiful Bill Would “Effectively Kill” North Carolina’s Medicaid Expansion And Strip Coverage From Hundreds Of Thousands Of People Who Only Recently Became Eligible. “More than 670,000 North Carolinians have enrolled in Medicaid since the state expanded access to the government-funded health insurance program in December 2023. Medicaid expansion, which passed with bipartisan support after years of resistance from most Republicans in the N.C. General Assembly, raised the state’s strict income threshold for Medicaid. That opened up the program to many working adults with lower incomes who previously made too much money to qualify. The measure has been hailed as a landmark policy change that is reshaping North Carolina’s health care landscape and closing long-standing coverage gaps, particularly in rural and underserved communities. Now, state health officials are warning that President Donald Trump’s so-called One Big Beautiful Bill, a version of which is expected to go before the U.S. Senate for a vote as early as this weekend, would effectively kill North Carolina’s expansion — stripping coverage from hundreds of thousands of residents who only recently became eligible for it.” [North Carolina Health News, [6/27/25](#)]

Since North Carolina Expanded Medicaid In 2023, Nearly 42,600 People In NC-01 And 680,000 People Statewide Received Coverage

March 2025: Kaiser Family Foundation: 42,600 Adults In NC-01 Received Medicaid Coverage Under The Affordable Care Act’s Medicaid Expansion. [KFF, [3/11/25](#)]

April 2025: Number Of People On Medicaid In NC-01 By Coverage Type							
Congressional District	Adult	Seniors	Children	Individuals with Disabilities	ACA Adults	Total	Total (%) Of Population
NC01	78,300	29,600	96,400	43,300	42,600	290,100	39%

[KFF, [3/11/25](#)]

August 2025: WFAE: The One Big Beautiful Bill Could Put Coverage At Risk For The Nearly 680,000 North Carolinians Who Gained Coverage Since The State Launched Its Medicaid Expansion In 2023. “North Carolina lawmakers return to Raleigh this week to continue hammering out the state budget, and one of the biggest questions hanging over them is the future of Medicaid expansion. Nearly 680,000 North Carolinians have gained coverage since the program launched in 2023. But President Trump’s ‘One Big Beautiful Bill,’ the sweeping tax and spending package signed into law earlier this summer, could put that coverage and the survival of some rural hospitals at risk.” [WFAE, [8/25/25](#)]

North Carolina Republican U.S. Senator Thom Tillis Said He Voted Against The One Big Beautiful Bill Because It Would Effectively End North Carolina’s Medicaid Expansion

June 2025: WUNC Headline: “Senate Megabill Could Kill NC’s Medicaid Expansion, Prompting Tillis Opposition.” [WUNC, [6/30/25](#)]

June 2025: WUNC: “U.S. Sen. Thom Tillis Says The Senate’s Current Megabill Would Effectively End Medicaid Expansion In North Carolina — And That’s The Main Reason He’s Opposing The Bill.” “U.S. Sen. Thom Tillis says the Senate’s current megabill would effectively end Medicaid expansion in North Carolina — and that’s the main reason he’s opposing the bill. Tillis’ decision to vote against the bill triggered a primary threat from President Donald Trump, which was followed by the senator’s Sunday announcement that he won’t run for re-election next year. Tillis explained in a floor speech Sunday evening that he’d reached out to North Carolina legislators, the N.C. Healthcare Association, and Gov. Josh Stein's administration to gather estimates on the bill’s

Medicaid impact locally. He said all agreed that the bill's cuts to Medicaid funding would mean more than 600,000 people in his state would lose healthcare. That's because when the Republican-led state legislature enacted Medicaid expansion in 2023, it included a provision that would automatically end the program if the federal government stops covering 90% of its cost." [WUNC, [6/30/25](#)]

- **Tillis Voted Against The Passage Of The One Big Beautiful Bill.** "North Carolina Senator Thom Tillis announced Sunday afternoon that he will not be seeking reelection in 2026. This comes after receiving backlash from President Donald Trump for voting against the 'One Big Beautiful' bill, which passed 51-49 overnight Saturday. Tillis released a Sunday statement, saying in part: 'In Washington over the last few years, it's become increasingly evident that leaders who are willing to embrace bipartisanship, compromise, and demonstrate independent thinking are becoming an endangered species.'" [ABC7 Eyewitness News, [6/29/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill's Cuts To Medicaid Forced North Carolina To Cut Provider Reimbursement Rates, Causing Some Providers To Stop Taking Medicaid Patients And Risking Clinic Closures

As A Result Of The One Big Beautiful Bill, State Officials Said There Was Not Enough Money In The State's Medicaid Rebase To Continue Current Service Levels And Reimbursement Rates Through June 2026

The Port City Daily: NC Medicaid Faced A Large Funding Shortfall Due To Reductions In Federal Funding In The One Big Beautiful Bill. "A state budget hasn't passed yet due to disagreements among the Assembly over tax rates and state employee raises, though a 'mini' budget supplement to the Department of Health and Human Services went into effect in August. It included \$600 million but was \$319 million less than what the DHHS said it needed for Medicaid. The department gave the state legislature an Oct. 1 deadline to release the rest of the money in order to keep operating normally, else they would initiate cuts, notably to provider reimbursements. The General Assembly didn't agree to the full amount due to funding shortfalls on multiple fronts, including the loss of COVID-19 relief funds and the reductions coming down through President Donald Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill." [Port City Daily, [10/19/25](#)]

- **July 2025: State Officials Said There Was Not Enough Money In The Medicaid Rebase To Continue Current Service Levels And Reimbursement Rates Through June 2026.** "In late July, lawmakers approved \$600 million for Medicaid, with \$500 million for use by the state Department of Health and Human Services for what is known as the Medicaid rebase. DHHS said the rebase amount fell short of covering needs through June 2026. The agency set cuts to start Oct. 1 if lawmakers didn't provide more funding. What is the rebase? It's the funding required to maintain current services and provider payment rates." [News & Observer, [10/2/25](#)]

North Carolina Was Expected To Lose Nearly \$50 Billion In Medicaid Funding Over Ten Years. "Key changes include new federal work requirements for Medicaid expansion recipients, restrictions on provider taxes that fund expansion, elimination of an over \$6 billion hospital payment program, and new state obligations to contribute to food assistance programs. These pieces do not all take effect at once, with varying enactment dates. DHHS estimates all these changes could translate to a \$50 billion loss in Medicaid funding for North Carolina over 10 years, with hospitals absorbing over 70% of the cuts, according to a forecast dated July 9 provided by DHHS." [News & Observer, [7/22/25](#)]

October 2025: State Officials Were Forced To Cut Medicaid Provider Reimbursement Rates After The State Legislature Failed To Appropriate Sufficient Funding For Medicaid

October 2025: North Carolina's Department Of Health And Human Services Instituted Provider Reimbursement Rate Cuts Of 3%-10%. "What exactly is being cut? Payments to medical providers. According to a list shared by DHHS, the cuts range from 3% to 10%. Acute care hospitals, nursing homes, psychiatric residential treatment facilities and intermediate care facilities will have rate reductions of 10%, according to a letter DHHS Secretary Devdutta Sangvai sent to lawmakers in August. DHHS has also posted a list of cuts effective Wednesday on its website, which will be updated if anything changes." [News & Observer, [10/2/25](#)]

October 2025: NC Health News: North Carolina Instituted Reimbursement Rate Cuts After The State

Legislature Failed To Appropriate Enough To Make Up For The Shortfall In Medicaid Funding.

“Lawmakers in Raleigh are deadlocked over Medicaid’s annual ‘rebase,’ the amount of funding needed each year to reflect changes in enrollment, care costs and the rates paid to providers. In June, the legislature, which has not been able to agree on a full state budget, passed a ‘mini’ budget that targeted specific programs, including Medicaid. But because the mini-budget fell \$319 million short of what the state Department of Health and Human Services said it needed for full rebase funding, NC DHHS implemented a series of sweeping cuts to adjust for the shortfall. ‘If providers are not paid enough to provide care, if hospitals are not provided enough to pay their employees, they will close the doors or dramatically decrease their services,’ said Wallace, one of several people who spoke out against the cuts in front of the state legislative building on Sept. 22 while the Senate met inside.” [NC Health News, [10/9/25](#)]

October 2025: Reimbursement Rate Cuts Caused Some Clinics To Stop Taking Medicaid Patients And Put Others On The Brink Of Closure

October 2025: Less Than A Month After Provider Rate Cuts Went Into Effect, Some Providers Were Already Opting Out Of Medicaid And Refusing To Take Medicaid Patients. “As the federal government goes into day 17 of a shutdown due to Washington politicians disputing the expiration of Obamacare provisions, Medicaid providers in North Carolina are grappling with less funding already from the state and planning ahead for what could come down the pike. ‘We’re having more patients calling us and requesting to become patients of ours because their old provider is no longer accepting Medicaid,’ Athena Johnson, CEO of MedNorth, said. ‘They already are opting out or not taking any Medicaid patients because of the rate reduction.’ The Department of Health and Human Services reduced Medicaid reimbursement to providers at the beginning of the month due to a North Carolina budget stalemate between Gov. Josh Stein and the General Assembly.” [Port City Daily, [10/19/25](#)]

NC Health News: Because Many Smaller Hospitals And Community-Based Providers Already Operate On “Razor-Thin Margins,” Reimbursement Rate Cuts Could Force Some Clinics To Close Entirely. “Under the announced plan, nearly all Medicaid providers will face rate reductions of 3 percent to 8 percent, while some categories — including nursing homes, hospitals, psychiatric residential treatment facilities and certain ambulatory services — will see steeper cuts of up to 10 percent. The reductions will affect services across the board, from personal care and home health to outpatient therapy and hospital care. Provider groups warn these cuts could destabilize health care access in North Carolina — especially in rural and underserved areas. Many smaller hospitals and community-based providers already operate on razor-thin margins, and a 10 percent cut may force them to stop accepting Medicaid patients — or even shutter services entirely. At the same time, health experts fear the cuts will trigger what Wesley Wallace, a professor of emergency medicine at UNC Chapel Hill, described as a ‘downward spiral’ — less revenue leading to providers who can’t pay staff or maintain services, which leads to further cutbacks or closures.” [NC Health News, [10/9/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Let The ACA Tax Credits Expire, Driving Up Health Care Costs For More Than 67,000 Individuals In NC-01 On Marketplace Plans

The One Big Beautiful Bill And Trump’s Tariffs Made Health Care More Expensive For 67,378 NC-01 Residents That Got Coverage From ACA Marketplace Plans

2025: 975,110 Individuals In North Carolina Were Enrolled In ACA Marketplace Plans. [KFF, [4/2/25](#)]

Number Of North Carolina Residents Enrolled In ACA Marketplace Plans In 2025	
NC	ACA Marketplace Enrollees
	975,110

[KFF, [4/2/25](#)]

2025: 67,378 Individuals In NC-01 Were Enrolled In ACA Marketplace Plans. [KFF, [10/3/25](#)]

Number Of NC-01 Residents Enrolled In ACA Marketplace Plans In 2025

NC-01	ACA Marketplace Enrollees
	67,378

[KFF, [10/3/25](#)]

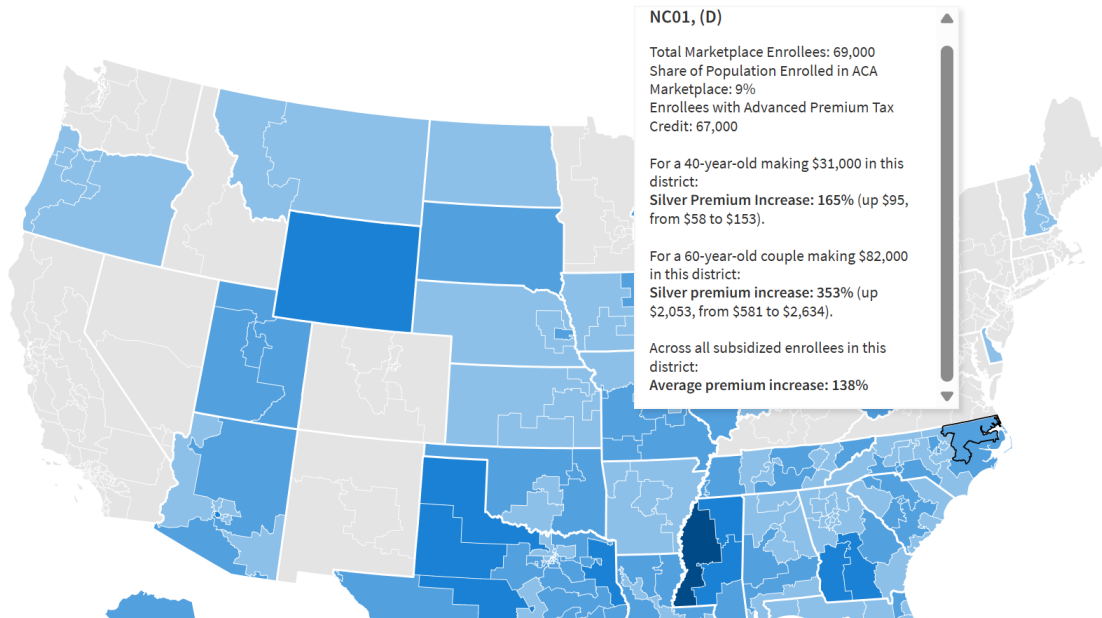
2025: All Subsidized Enrollees In NC-01 Were Expected To See An Average Premium Increase Of 138% In Their Out-Of-Pocket Monthly Payments If The ACA Tax Credits Expired

2025: Individuals In NC-01 Were Expected To See An Average Increase Of 138% In Costs For Premiums After The Expiration Of The ACA Tax Credits. [KFF, [2/3/25](#)]

Percent Increase in Average Monthly Premium Payments Without Enhanced Subsidies, 2024

Average 60-Year Old Couple, \$82,000 40-Year-Old, \$31,000

< 50% 50%–100% 100%–150% 150%–200% 200%–300% ≥ 300%



- **2025: A 60 Year-Old Couple Making \$82,000 In NC-01 Were Expected To See An Average Increase Of 353% In Costs For Premiums After The Expiration Of The ACA Tax Credits.** [KFF, [2/3/25](#)]

Average Premium Increase Percentage For NC-01 Residents On Silver Premium Plans After Expiration Of ACA Tax Credits	
NC-01	Average Premium Increase
	353%

[KFF, [2/3/25](#)]

KFF Health System Tracker: Insurers That Participated In The ACA Marketplaces Raised Premiums On Average By 20% In 2026. “For 2026, across 312 insurers participating in the ACA Marketplaces from the 50 states and the District of Columbia, this analysis shows a median proposed premium increase of 18%, which is about 11 percentage points higher than last year. This is the largest rate change insurers have requested since 2018, the last time that policy uncertainty contributed to sharp premium increases. On average, ACA Marketplace insurers are raising premiums by about 20% in 2026. Based on a more detailed analysis of available documents from insurers in 19 states and the District of Columbia, like in prior years, growth in health care prices stood out as a key factor driving costs in 2026. Insurers cite increasing cost and utilization of high-priced drugs as well as general market factors, such as increasing labor costs and inflation, as contributing to premium increases.” [Health System Tracker, [8/6/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Did Not Extend Enhanced Premium Tax Credits For ACA Marketplace Plans. “The OBBBA did not extend enhanced premium tax credits for ACA marketplace plans. As a result, when open enrollment begins on November 1, 2025, 20 million marketplace enrollees will see their premium costs spike.” [Center for American Progress, [7/29/25](#)]

- **The Expiration Of Enhanced Tax Credits Would Lead To Out-Of-Pocket Premiums For ACA Marketplace Enrollees Increasing By An Average Of Over 75%.** “In addition to rising healthcare costs, the majority of insurers are also taking into account the potential expiration of enhanced premium tax credits in their premium rate increases for the next year. The expiration of enhanced tax credits will lead to out-of-pocket premiums for ACA marketplace enrollees increasing by an average of more than 75%, with insurers expecting healthier enrollees to drop coverage. That, in turn, increases underlying premiums. Other federal policy changes, like the implementation of tariffs and the ACA Marketplace Integrity and Affordability rule were also discussed, though to a lesser extent.” [Health System Tracker, [8/6/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Enacted The Largest SNAP Cuts In History, Threatening Food Assistance For More Than 60,000 Households In NC-01

Center For American Progress: The One Big Beautiful Bill Enacted The Largest SNAP Cuts In The Program’s History

Center For American Progress: “The Senate Has Released Its Version Of The One Big Beautiful Bill Act, Which Would Enact The Largest Cut To The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) In The Program’s History According To Center For American Progress Estimates.” “The Senate has released its version of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, which would enact the largest cut to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in the program’s history according to Center for American Progress estimates. Despite the proposal cutting less than the House-passed version’s nearly \$300 billion in cuts, it is even more extreme than the House version in some key aspects. Moreover, this legislation comes at a time when food insecurity is rising across all 50 states, reaching levels not seen since 2014.” [Center for American Progress, [6/26/25](#)]

- **Axios: “The Bill Would Reduce Nutrition Funding, Which Includes SNAP, By Around \$186 Billion Between 2025 And 2034.”** “By the numbers: The bill would reduce nutrition funding, which includes SNAP, by around \$186 billion between 2025 and 2034. While analyst's projections have fluctuated as the legislation's provisions are tweaked, analysts have indicated millions of people could be cut from SNAP under the work requirement provisions.” [Axios, [7/3/25](#)]
- **HEADLINE: “House Reconciliation Bill Proposes Deepest SNAP Cut In History, Would Take Food Assistance Away From Millions of Low-Income Families.”** [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [5/28/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Cut SNAP By Around \$186 Billion. President Trump's massive tax and spending bill, which is advancing through the House after surviving its Republican push through the Senate, would slash food benefits for thousands. The big picture: It would mark a historic cut to the social safety net that Republicans claim weeds out waste, fraud and abuse — but experts say the restructuring of assistance programs could leave more people hungry and uninsured. [...] By the numbers: The bill would reduce nutrition funding, which includes SNAP, by around \$186 billion between 2025 and 2034. [Axios, [7/3/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Risked Food Assistance For 60,848 Households In NC-01

According To The U.S. Department Of Agriculture, 60,848 Households Participated In Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) In NC-01. [USDA, accessed [4/24/26](#)]

Who Receives SNAP?

SNAP provides nutrition benefits to supplement the food budgets of low-income families so they can purchase healthy food.

In NC District 1, SNAP serves...

60,848
HOUSEHOLDS

The One Big Beautiful Bill Gave Billions In Tax Breaks To The Ultra-Wealthy At The Expense Of Working Families

Institute On Taxation And Economic Policy: The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Give The Richest 1% Of Americans \$117 Billion In Net Tax Cuts In 2026

Institute On Taxation And Economic Policy: The House-Passed Reconciliation Bill Would Give The Richest 1% Of Americans \$117 Billion In Net Tax Cuts In 2026. “The House of Representatives today narrowly passed a massive tax and spending reconciliation bill that now heads to President Trump’s desk. Please see below for a statement from ITEP and our latest updated analysis of how the bill’s tax provisions will affect families at different income levels nationally and in every state. [...] The richest 1 percent of Americans would receive a total of \$117 billion in net tax cuts in 2026. The middle 20 percent of taxpayers on the income scale, a group that has 20 times the number of taxpayers as the richest 1 percent, would receive less than half that much, \$53 billion in net tax cuts that year.” [Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, [7/3/24](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill’s Biggest Tax Cuts Benefited The Wealthiest Giving Them Tax Cuts Three Times Greater Than For Working Americans

The One Big Beautiful Bill’s Biggest Tax Cuts Benefited The Wealthiest Americans. “The One Big Beautiful Bill includes the largest tax cuts in U.S. history. Whether it’s actually ‘beautiful’ is in the eye of the beholder. At every income level taxes should subside. That’s a big selling point from President Donald Trump and fellow Republicans who pushed the law through Congress with no Democratic support. It will benefit everyone. But the biggest cuts go to the wealthiest taxpayers – the ones who pay the lion’s share of taxes. For most families the savings will be miniscule in comparison, in raw dollars and as a share of income. And millions will lose subsidized health insurance and other benefits. Critics see a plan that widens income inequality and, worse, offsets tax cuts for the wealthy with draconian spending cuts that hit lower-income households.” [Cronkite News, [7/16/25](#)]

The House-Passed Republican Reconciliation Bill Extended The Tax Cuts And Jobs Act Which Skewed In Favor Of The Wealthy By Providing Them Tax Cuts That Were Three Times Greater Than For Working Americans. “The tax provisions of the House Republican reconciliation bill double down on the failures of the 2017 tax law, which was skewed in favor of the richest people in the country, further eroded the nation’s revenue base, and didn’t produce the promised economic gains for working people.[1] Instead of changing course and prioritizing people with low and moderate incomes as House Republicans’ rhetoric about supporting hard-pressed working families would suggest, the House Republican tax bill only offers more of the same. The bill is heavily skewed to the wealthy: Under the bill, the top 1 percent of people would receive tax cuts three times the size of those for people with incomes in the bottom 60 percent, measured as a share of after-tax income. (See Figure 1.) The top 0.6 percent of people — the 1.2 million people with annual incomes above \$1 million — would receive more total tax cuts than the 127 million people with incomes below \$100,000. [...] The bill extends and expands the 2017 tax law’s increase in the estate tax exemption, boosting the cut in estate taxes for the 1 in 1,000 wealthiest estates to \$6.3 million.[3] Next year a couple could pass on an estate worth up to \$30 million tax free, \$1.7 million more than under a simple extension of the 2017 law.” [CBPP, [5/22/25](#)]

CBS: “Like Penn Wharton, Other Researchers Have Said The Republican Bill Is Likely To Benefit Wealthy Americans At The Expense Of People Lower Down The Ladder.” “Like Penn Wharton, other researchers have

said the Republican bill is likely to benefit wealthy Americans at the expense of people lower down the ladder. The measure would likely reduce the financial resources available to the lowest-earning 10% of U.S. households by \$1,600 per year, or almost 4% of their annual income, according to a report published earlier this month by the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office. White House officials have previously questioned the CBO's scoring of the bill. But the highest-earning 10% of households would see a gain of \$12,000 per year in resources, while middle-income households would see a gain of \$500 to \$1,000, the CBO projected. Its analysis is based on the bill's tax breaks, as well as reductions for federal programs and reductions in state funds for safety net programs such as Medicaid and food stamps. In considering the impact of higher U.S. debt on future generations, the cost would come in the form of lower wages and higher costs, such as more expensive mortgages, Smetters said." [CBS News, [6/26/25](#)]

The Hill: "The Republicans' 'Big, Beautiful Bill' Will Make The Poorest Americans Even Poorer, While Padding The Wallets Of The Highest Earners The Most, According To An Analysis Released Monday By Congress's Budget Arm." "The Republicans' 'big, beautiful bill' will make the poorest Americans even poorer, while padding the wallets of the highest earners the most, according to an analysis released Monday by Congress's budget arm. The assessment, conducted by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) at the request of top Democrats, found that the top 10 percent of earners in the country will see an average boost of \$13,600 per year over the next decade as a direct result of provisions in the law, while the bottom 10 percent will see an average annual decrease of \$1,200. The report challenges the arguments made by President Trump and other Republicans that the massive domestic policy package would benefit workers at all levels of wealth and income. And it's given fuel to the attacks from Democrats that the legislation was, all along, designed to help the wealthiest people at the expense of the working poor." [The Hill, [8/11/25](#)]

- **HEADLINE: "Budget Office Says GOP's 'Big, Beautiful Bill' Will Make Rich Richer, Poor Poorer."** [Hill, [8/11/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Gutted Clean Energy Tax Credits, Threatening \$328 Million In Clean Energy Investments In NC-01, Risking More Than 20,000 Jobs In North Carolina, And Raising Energy Costs For North Carolina Households By \$490

The One Big Beautiful Bill Gutted Clean Energy Tax Credits

The House-Passed Republican Reconciliation Bill Gutted Clean Energy Tax Credits. "The multitrillion-dollar tax breaks package passed by House Republicans early Thursday would gut clean energy tax credits that Democrats approved three years ago while supporting increased mining, drilling and other traditional energy production. A marathon session that began Wednesday resulted in 1,100-plus page legislation that curbs billions of dollars in spending across food assistance, student loans, Medicaid and action to address climate change." [AP, [5/22/25](#)]

The House-Passed Republican Reconciliation Bill Would Dismantle Clean Energy Incentives. "A Republican push to dismantle clean energy incentives threatens to reverberate across the US by costing more than 830,000 jobs, raising energy bills for US households and threatening to unleash millions more tonnes of the planet-heating pollution that is causing the climate crisis, experts have warned. A major tax bill passed by the Republican-held House of Representatives on Thursday morning will, as currently, demolish key components of climate legislation signed by Joe Biden that has spurred a record torrent of renewable energy and electric vehicle investment in the US. Under the reconciliation bill, tax credits for cleaner cars will end this year, with incentives for wind, solar and even nuclear energy projects scaled down and then eliminated by 2032. Clean energy manufacturing tax credits will be axed by 2031, while Americans seeking to upgrade their homes to cleaner or more energy efficient appliances will get no further subsidy after the end of this year. 'This bill is worse than what people envisioned – it pulls the rug out from facilities banking on these incentives, it raises everyday household costs by hundreds of dollars and undercuts any sort of action on climate change,' said Robbie Orvis, senior director at Energy Innovation, a non-partisan climate policy thinktank." [The Guardian, [5/22/25](#)]

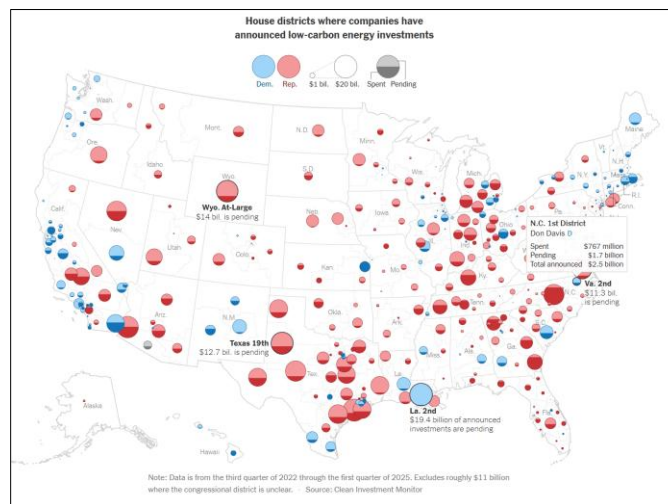
The Atlantic: Future Clean Energy Projects Would Cost About 50% More Than Those That Received Tax Credits

The Atlantic: Future Clean Energy Projects Would Cost About 50% More Than Those That Received Tax Credits. “The Senate version of Donald Trump’s One Big Beautiful Bill repeals the clean-energy tax credits in the IRA for all wind and solar projects that don’t begin construction within a year of the bill’s passage or become fully operational by 2028. (And even if a project begins construction in the first half of 2026, it will need to meet extremely onerous domestic-sourcing requirements that many experts believe will be nearly impossible to satisfy.) As a result, future clean-energy projects, including many that have been announced but not yet built, will cost about 50 percent more than those that received the credits, according to an analysis by Jesse Jenkins, who leads the Princeton ZERO Lab. The inevitable result is that far fewer will come into existence. ‘It’s hard to think of a bigger self-own,’ Jenkins told me. ‘We’re effectively raising taxes on the country’s main sources of new power at a time when electricity prices are already rising.’” [Atlantic, [7/3/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Threatened \$328 Million In Clean Energy Investments In NC-01

May 2025: There Was \$522 Billion In Outstanding Clean Energy Investment From The Inflation Reduction Act That Remained To Be Spent. “Since the enactment of the IRA in Q3 2022, \$321 billion has been invested in manufacturing, clean electricity, and industrial facilities, and 2,369 new facilities have opened across the US. Looking ahead, \$522 billion of outstanding investment remains to be spent on construction and installation for announced or under-construction facilities. This pipeline includes 2,217 facilities that have yet to come online.” [Clean Investment Monitor, accessed [4/24/26](#)]

May 2025: \$2.5 Billion In Clean Energy Investments Had Been Announced In NC-01 By Companies, With \$1.7 Billion Still Pending. According to the New York Times, in NC-01, \$2.5 billion in clean energy investments had been announced by companies. As of May 2025, \$767 million was already spent, and \$1.7 billion was still pending. [New York Times, [5/21/25](#)]



[New York Times, [5/21/25](#)]

NOTE: The above data was calculated before the NCGA redistricted North Carolina.

The One Big Beautiful Bill Threatened More Than 20,000 Future Clean Energy Jobs In North Carolina

May 2025: 20,332 Future Clean Energy Jobs Were At Risk In North Carolina. According to the Rhodium Group Clean Energy Monitor, in North Carolina, 20,332 future clean energy jobs were at risk. [Clean Investment Monitor, accessed [4/24/26](#)]

Cuts To Clean Energy Tax Credits In The One Big Beautiful Bill Contributed To The Cancellation Of A \$1.4 Billion Battery Plant In NC-01, Costing More Than 1,000 Jobs In The District

September 2025: Natron Energy Announced It Was Going Out Of Business, Ending The Company's Previously Announced Plan To Build A \$1.4 Billion Plant In NC-01

September 2025: News & Observer Headline: “Natron Energy, Company Behind \$1.4 Billion NC Project, Is Going Out Of Business.” [News & Observer, [9/2/25](#)]

September 2025: Natron Energy Went Out Of Business Due To “Funding Issues.” “‘Natron Energy, the sodium-ion battery startup that last summer promised to create 1,000 jobs at a future \$1.4 billion factory in Eastern North Carolina, will stop operating as a company Wednesday due to funding issues. ‘We appreciate our customers and partners support though our journey,’ John Schmidt, Natron’s chief commercial officer, wrote Tuesday in an internal staff email provided to The News & Observer. ‘And this is not how we or anyone at Natron wanted this to end.’ Natron’s largest shareholder, Sherwood Partners, plans to sell the company’s assets, Schmidt said.’” [News & Observer, [9/2/25](#)]

August 2024: Battery Maker Natron Energy Announced Plans Invest \$1.4 Billion Into Building The First Sodium Ion Battery Gigafactory In The Country In Rocky Mount. “A \$1.4 billion investment is coming to Edgecombe County. Battery maker Natron Energy is building the first sodium ion battery gigafactory in the country at the Kingsboro Megasite off Hwy 64 in Rocky Mount.” [CBS 17 WNCN, [8/15/24](#)]

- **2024: Rocky Mount Was Located In NC-01.** “North Carolina’s 1st congressional district, redrawn by Republican state lawmakers last year, stretches from the border of Virginia to south of Kinston. It’s the largest congressional district in the state. It’s a primarily rural district with significant farmland, but it does include the cities of Rocky Mount and Goldsboro. Democrat congressman Don Davis is in his first term representing the district. He’s a former state senator, and mayor of Snow Hill, who’s now up for re-election to Congress. ‘To continue to fight for the families of eastern North Carolina to deliver on health care, education, building a stronger economy,’ Davis told Spectrum News 1 in Snow Hill where he lives.” [Spectrum News 1, [10/9/24](#)]

Natron Energy’s Battery Plant In NC-01 Would Have Employed More Than 1,000 People And Paid Them \$64,000 A Year, \$17,000 More Than The County’s Average

CBS 17 WNCN: Natron Energy’s Planned Battery Factory In Rocky Mount Would Have Employed More Than 1,000 People. “Natron Energy said the clean energy battery factory will be 40 times the size of its Michigan one. The company will hire more than 1,000 people with an average salary of \$64,000. Some of uses for the batteries include data centers and electric vehicle chargers. ‘North Carolina is becoming the heart of the booming battery belt,’ Gov. Roy Cooper said. ‘This emerging clean energy economy means more good paying jobs in our state and more money in the pockets of families across eastern North Carolina.’” [CBS 17 WNCN, [8/15/24](#)]

Clean Economy Tracker: The Average Wage For Jobs At The Rocky Mount Plant Was Expected To Be 64,071, Which Was \$17,000 More Than The County’s Average. “Natron’s factory is expected to add 1,000 jobs, with the average wage for those jobs expected to be \$64,071 – \$17,000 more than the county’s current average. The resulting annual payroll of nearly \$77 million could have economic effects as those wages are spent in and around the county. Natron will begin training programs at Edgecombe Community College to prepare the county’s workforce for new employment opportunities.” [Clean Economy Tracker, [6/3/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill’s Cuts To Clean Energy Tax Credits Helped Push Natron Energy Out Of Business, Ending Their Plans To Build A \$1.4 Billion Plant In NC-01

Punchbowl News: Republican Cuts To Clean Energy Tax Credits Under The Republican Reconciliation Law Contributed To Natron Energy Pulling Out Of Building A Battery Plant In NC-01. “E2, which supports these initiatives, has been tracking project announcements and cancellations since the 2022 enactment of the Inflation Reduction Act, which provided tax and spending incentives for clean energy production. Since the beginning of

2025, Republican congressional districts have lost nearly \$12.4 billion in investments, while Democratic districts have lost around \$7.5 billion. The Trump administration has been phasing out the Biden-era \$7,500 EV tax credit, which companies believed would drive up demand for electric cars. The Trump administration is also cancelling federal funding for other energy projects. And more renewable energy-related tax credits will start to be scaled back soon under the GOP reconciliation law. Republicans opposed the Inflation Reduction Act and have mostly been supportive of the effort to end its energy policies. The rollback. In September alone, four major battery, storage and EV facility projects were abandoned. Some Republican lawmakers had lauded those efforts when they were announced years ago. Now, without the EV incentives attached to these projects, companies are backing out. [...] Natron Energy is also pulling out of a planned \$1.4 billion investment in Rep. Don Davis' (D-N.C.) current district in North Carolina. Republicans are hoping to pick up Davis' district under a new redistricting plan for 2026." [Punchbowl News, [10/23/25](#)]

- **The Reconciliation Bill Was Dubbed The One Big Beautiful Bill Act.** "On July 4, 2025, US President Donald Trump signed into law a budget reconciliation bill known as H.R.1: the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA). The OBBBA generally accelerated phase-outs to the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (IRA) energy tax credits, dictated shortened deadlines for project credit qualification (particularly targeting solar and wind facilities), broadened domestic content restrictions, and most prominently, restricted credit availability to 'prohibited foreign entities' of concern (FEOCs) – all of which raises important project planning considerations for developers, energy producers, and investors in the US renewables energy space." [McDermott Will & Emery, [7/7/25](#)]

Gov. Roy Cooper Said Natron Failed Due To Republican Attacks On Clean Energy Tax Credits

The Daily Reflector Headline: "Cooper Says Natron Failed Due To Attacks On Clean Energy; Leaders Express Dismay About Pull-Out." [Daily Reflector, [9/10/25](#)]

- **Roy Cooper: Attacks On "Low-Cost Clean Energy" In Washington, D.C. "Helped Push Natron Out Of Business, Causing The Cancellation Of A Thousand Good-Paying Jobs For Rural Eastern North Carolina Families."** "Former governor and current U.S. Senate candidate Roy Cooper blamed the collapse of a battery maker that had planned a \$1.4 billion plant near Tarboro on ongoing attacks on clean energy. Cooper and other area candidates seeking office in the 2026 elections were asked about the decision last month by Natron Energy to cease all operations, including plans to operate the 1,000-job facility at the Kingsboro Business Park in Edgecombe County. Cooper's campaign released a statement on Friday in response to questions from the Rocky Mount Telegram. He said that attacks on 'low-cost clean energy led by big oil lobbyists in Washington, D.C., helped push Natron out of business, causing the cancellation of a thousand good-paying jobs for rural eastern North Carolina families.' 'Unfortunately, these are not the only jobs that may be lost because of these disastrous energy policies that must be changed,' he said." [Daily Reflector, [9/10/25](#)]
- **News & Observer: North Carolina Commerce Secretary Lee Lilley Blamed Trump Administration Energy Policy For Contributing To Natron's Failure.** "Sherwood Partners had made 'several attempts' to sell its stake in Natron, Schmidt told staff Tuesday, but the investment firm ultimately placed Natron into a debtor process known as Assignment for the Benefit of Creditors, or ABC. Sodium-ion is an emerging battery material, and Natron has received nearly \$20 million from the U.S. Department of Energy to fund its initial commercial efforts, including a smaller manufacturing site in Michigan. This money was part of a broader Biden administration initiative to help scale 'high-risk and potentially disruptive new technologies' in the energy sector. On Tuesday, North Carolina Commerce Secretary Lee Lilley blamed Trump administration energy policy for contributing to Natron's failure. 'Today's news about Natron Energy is disappointing because it stood to create 1,000 good paying jobs in a growing industry,' Lilley, who was appointed by Democratic Gov. Josh Stein, wrote in an email to The N&O. 'Instead, federal energy policy is hurting rural jobs unless you happen to have oil or gas in your state.'" [News & Observer, [9/2/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Was Estimated To Raise Energy Costs For North Carolina Residents By \$490 Per Year On Average

CNBC: Annual Energy Costs For Households In North Carolina Were Projected To Rise By An Average Of \$490 Due To The One Big Beautiful Bill. “Electricity prices are expected to surge higher throughout the next decade due to energy policy changes in President Donald Trump’s ‘big beautiful’ bill, according to a new analysis from Energy Innovation, a non-partisan energy and climate think tank. Signed July 4, the bill mandates expanded oil and gas leasing, caps clean energy subsidies and rolls back tax credits that helped to make wind, solar and other clean power cheaper for manufacturers and more affordable for consumers, says Robbie Orvis, senior director for modeling and analysis at Energy Innovation. When the clean energy tax credits phase out at the end of 2025, that will bump up electricity costs for ordinary Americans, Orvis says. That’s largely because higher costs for clean energy development will slow the pace of new supply, just as U.S. energy demand hits record highs, he says, resulting in higher electricity bills and increased reliance on natural gas, which will also become more expensive with rising demand. [...] Overall, household energy costs will rise by \$170, on average, by 2035, researchers found. And that estimate may be conservative. A report from Princeton University’s Rapid Energy Policy Evaluation and Analysis Toolkit pegs the average increase at \$280 a year by 2035.” [CNBC, [7/14/25](#)]

Electricity Price Hike Per State	
State	Price
North Carolina	\$490

[CNBC, [7/14/25](#)]

Americans Would Pay Higher Energy Costs From The One Big Beautiful Bill’s Elimination Of Clean Energy Tax Credits

The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Raise Electricity Prices For Consumers

Rhodium: The House-Passed Republican Reconciliation Bill Would Raise Households’ Energy Costs. “Work is underway in Congress to construct and pass a budget reconciliation bill or bills to meet an array of priorities and policy objectives set by President Trump. Most of these priorities focus on increasing spending on defense and border security as well as extending and possibly expanding the tax cuts enacted in Trump’s first term. In this note, we estimate how much energy costs could rise for households and industry if Congress chooses to partially pay for these priorities through the rollback and repeal of key pollution regulations and energy tax credits. We find that on a national level, households see an increase in annual energy costs of \$184 in 2030 and \$371 in 2035. However, households in many states see much higher cost increases than the national average. This includes Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, and Texas, which, at the upper bound of our estimates, see annual cost increases of \$250-\$326 per household in 2030. In 2035, California, Oregon, and Washington all see estimated annual cost increases of over \$800 per household. The rollback and repeal of regulations and tax credits also increase costs for industrial manufacturers. We estimate an increase of \$8-14 billion in total energy spending across the industrial sector in 2030 and 2035. We provide impacts for each of the 50 states on the ClimateDeck as part of this analysis.” [Rhodium Group, [3/20/25](#)]

CEBA: Repealing The Federal Clean Energy Technology -Neutral Investment And Production Tax Credits Would Raise American Consumers Costs By More Than \$110 Per Year. “The Clean Energy Buyers Association (CEBA) today released a study conducted by NERA Economic Consulting showing that repealing the federal clean energy technology-neutral investment (\$48E) and production tax credits (\$45Y) would raise average U.S. residential electricity prices by nearly 7% by 2026 – equating to an average yearly increase of more than \$110 for the average American residential customer. For American businesses, electricity bills would increase by about 10% by 2026 if the tax credits are repealed, with costs likely passed on to consumers in the form of higher prices for goods and services. Additionally, repealing the credits would decrease available capacity on the grid by 167 gigawatts (GW) at a time when generation is critical to supporting the 21st century industries of America such as artificial Intelligence and advanced manufacturing, to win the economic race against China.” [Clean Energy Buyers Association, [2/25/25](#)]

The Republican Reconciliation Bill Would Raise The National Average Retail Electricity Rates By 9% In 2030. “A tax package on track to pass both chambers of Congress would raise electricity prices, accelerate the release of heat-trapping greenhouse gases and undercut low-emission energy investments, according to researchers

who have analyzed the legislation. [...] Overall, the bill would raise ‘national average retail electricity rates and monthly household electricity bills by about 9% in 2030,’ researchers at Princeton University concluded.” [NJ Spotlight News, [6/5/25](#)]

- **HEADLINE: “Republican Tax Bill Will Raise Electricity Prices, Analysts Say.”** [NJ Spotlight News, [6/5/25](#)]

June 2025: Republican Representatives Warned That Gutting The Clean Energy Tax Credits In The Reconciliation Bill Would Lead To Higher Energy Bills For Consumers

June 2025: Thirteen House Republicans Signed A Letter Urging Senate Leaders To Protect Clean Energy Tax Credits In The Reconciliation Bill. “Thirteen House Republicans are urging Senate leaders to ‘substantially and strategically’ improve clean energy tax credit provisions in the House-passed megabill. Led by Rep. Jen Kiggans (R-Va.), the lawmakers said they remain ‘deeply concerned by several provisions’ that would aggressively phase down incentives from the Democrats’ 2022 climate law and add strict new supply chain requirements. [Politico, [6/6/25](#)]

June 2025: Thirteen House Republicans Said They Were “Deeply Concerned By Several Provisions” Of The House-Passed Megabill Regarding Its Impact On Clean Energy Tax Credits. “Thirteen House Republicans are urging Senate leaders to ‘substantially and strategically’ improve clean energy tax credit provisions in the House-passed megabill. Led by Rep. Jen Kiggans (R-Va.), the lawmakers said they remain ‘deeply concerned by several provisions’ that would aggressively phase down incentives from the Democrats’ 2022 climate law and add strict new supply chain requirements.” [Politico, [6/6/25](#)]

Republican Representatives Warned The Reconciliation Bill Could Jeopardize Energy Development, Increase Costs, And Weaken U.S. Competitiveness. “Today, Congresswoman Jen Kiggans (VA-02) and Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick (PA-01) led a bipartisan letter to Senate leadership encouraging commonsense reforms to key provisions in the energy title of H.R. 1, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. In the letter, Kiggans, Fitzpatrick, and 11 of their colleagues, raised concerns about several provisions in the bill. These include the abrupt expiration of clean energy tax credits, overly burdensome Foreign Entity of Concern (FEOC) restrictions, and restrictions on credit transferability. The lawmakers warned that these measures could jeopardize energy development, increase costs, and weaken U.S. competitiveness, and urged the Senate to adopt practical refinements that promote fiscal responsibility while supporting business stability and continued investment in American energy.” [Representative Kiggans, Press Release, [6/6/25](#)]

Clean Energy Buyers Association: The One Big Beautiful Bill’s Cuts To Clean Energy Tax Credits Would Increase Energy Costs For North Carolinians By 14.4% As Less Power Was Added To The Grid

Eliminating Tax Credits For Clean Energy In North Carolina Would Increase Residential Energy Prices By 14.4% In 2029

Clean Energy Buyers Association: Eliminating Tax Credits For Clean Energy In North Carolina Would Increase Residential Energy Prices By 14.4% In 2029, The Fourth Most In The Country. According to data from the Clean Energy Buyers Association, without IRA clean energy tax credits, residential energy prices in North Carolina would rise by 14.4% in 2029, which was the fourth highest increase of any state in the country. [Clean Energy Buyers Association, [2/10/25](#)]

- **Rhodium Group: Cutting Clean Energy Tax Credits Would Raise Households’ Energy Costs By Hundreds Of Dollars In The Coming Years.** “In this note, we estimate how much energy costs could rise for households and industry if Congress chooses to partially pay for these priorities through the rollback and repeal of key pollution regulations and energy tax credits. We find that on a national level, households see an increase in annual energy costs of \$184 in 2030 and \$371 in 2035. However, households in many states see much higher cost increases than the national average.” [Rhodium Group, [3/20/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Made Health Care More Expensive For Seniors And Older Americans

The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Force Nearly \$500 Billion In Medicare Cuts Over The Next Ten Years

The Big Beautiful Bill Would Require Automatic Sequestration Cuts That Would Cause \$490 Billion In Cuts To Medicare Over The Next Ten Years. “Because of a statutory requirement to automatically impose budget cuts when legislation increases the deficit, the Big Beautiful Bill would require automatic sequestration cuts across the board, something that has been confirmed by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) but has been largely absent from the debate over the bill. Medicare is one of the programs that will face the axe, and the damage sums to \$490 billion over the next ten years, starting in the next fiscal year that begins in October. While many of the safety-net cuts in the bill are delayed to help Republicans with their re-election campaigns, the Medicare cuts must begin next year.” [The American Prospect, [7/3/25](#)]

The Republican Reconciliation Bill Could Force Nearly \$500 Billion In Medicare Cuts. “President Donald Trump and congressional Republicans’ mammoth tax and immigration bill would add so much to the national debt that it could force nearly \$500 billion in cuts to Medicare beginning in 2026, Congress’s nonpartisan bookkeeper reported late Tuesday.” [Washington Post, [5/21/25](#)]

- **HEADLINE: “Trump And GOP’s Tax Bill Would Force Cuts To Medicare, CBO Says.”** [Washington Post, [5/21/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Made Health Care More Expensive For Seniors On Medicare

HEADLINE: “House Republicans’ Big, ‘Beautiful’ Bill Would Make Health Care More Expensive For Americans With Medicare And Other Insurance.” [Center for American Progress, [6/12/25](#)]

- **Costs Would Increase For Americans With Medicaid, Medicare, ACA Marketplace Plans, And Job-Based Insurance.** “The House Republican-passed tax and budget reconciliation bill would increase health care costs for many Americans with Medicaid, Medicare, ACA marketplace plans, and job-based insurance. Individuals and families could face steep increases in premiums, deductibles, and other out-of-pocket expenses, amounting to thousands of dollars per year.” [Center for American Progress, [6/12/25](#)]

CBPP: The Republican Reconciliation Bill Would Terminate Cost-Sharing Assistance For 1.4 Million Seniors Dually Eligible For Medicaid And Medicare Resulting In Higher Out-Of-Pocket Costs. “The House Republicans’ bill includes provisions that will add burdens for seniors, contributing to coverage losses and higher costs. One such provision would block implementation of a rule designed to make it easier for low-income seniors and people with disabilities who receive Medicare to access Medicare Savings Programs, a part of state Medicaid programs that help pay people’s Medicare premiums and cost-sharing charges. According to data from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO), roughly 1.4 million people who are dually eligible for Medicaid and Medicare would no longer receive this cost-sharing assistance and would therefore face increased out-of-pocket costs under the bill.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [6/6/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Made Health Care More Expensive For Older Americans On ACA Marketplace Plans

HEADLINE: “Older Adults With ACA Coverage Would Face Steep Premium Hikes Under House Republicans’ One Big Beautiful Bill Act.” [Center for American Progress, [6/26/25](#)]

- **The House Republican Proposal Would Effectively Price Many Aging Americans Out Of Their Affordable Coverage That They Have Relied On.** “These sharp cost increases represent a real threat to older adults’ ability to access health care. If enacted, the House Republican proposal would effectively price many aging Americans out of the affordable coverage they rely on until they become eligible for Medicare.” [Center for American Progress, [6/26/25](#)]

The Republican Reconciliation Bill Would Increase The Costs For Older Adults In The ACA Marketplace.

“Another element of House Republicans’ health agenda targets the ACA marketplaces, which provide coverage and financial assistance to more than 20 million people, including many older people not yet eligible for Medicare. The legislation not only fails to extend the expiring enhanced premium tax credits for marketplace coverage, which will lead to skyrocketing premiums, but it also makes changes that will further increase people’s costs, such as changing how maximum out-of-pocket limits are adjusted.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [6/6/25](#)]

Older Adults Would Face, On Average, At Least A \$1,200 Increase In Annual Premiums To Keep Their Current ACA Marketplace Plan.

“Last month, House Republicans passed a tax and budget reconciliation bill that, if enacted, would raise health insurance premiums for millions of Americans who purchase coverage through the Affordable Care Act (ACA) marketplaces. A new Center for American Progress analysis makes clear that older adults would be hit especially hard—facing, on average, at least \$1,200 more in annual premiums to keep their current ACA marketplace plan. In multiple states, premium hikes for adults 55 years old and older would exceed an average of \$10,000—including a staggering \$15,200 average increase in West Virginia and a \$16,700 average increase in Alaska.” [Center for American Progress, [6/26/25](#)]

CBPP: The Big Beautiful Bill Would Leave Older Adults With Higher Costs And Less Health Care.

“The House Republicans’ budget reconciliation legislation would reduce assistance that helps seniors and older adults get needed health coverage and afford sufficient food. The so-called ‘Big Beautiful Bill’ is anything but beautiful; it would cause widespread harm by making massive cuts to Medicaid and SNAP, which would raise costs and make it much harder for people to afford the high cost of groceries and health care. More than 7 million seniors with low incomes receive health coverage and care through Medicaid, with over 3 in 5 nursing home residents having their care paid for by Medicaid. Medicaid also covers other long-term services and supports, including home-based services, and helps cover premiums, deductibles, and cost sharing for some Medicare beneficiaries. By cutting Medicaid and Affordable Care Act (ACA) marketplaces by about \$1 trillion, the largest cuts in the programs’ history, the House Republican bill would lead states to make large cuts in eligibility or benefits that could leave many older adults with higher costs and less health care.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [6/6/25](#)]

- **HEADLINE: “2025 Budget Impacts: House Bill Would Cut Assistance And Raise Costs For Seniors.”**

[Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [6/6/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Lower Safety And Quality Standards For Nursing Homes

The Republican Reconciliation Bill Would Lower Safety And Quality Standards For Nursing Homes. “The House Republican reconciliation bill would rescind a rule providing for minimum staffing standards for nursing homes. Lowering these standards would set back efforts to ensure safe, quality care for seniors and other people who need nursing facility services.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [6/6/25](#)]

Buckhout Touted The Rural Health Transformation Program In The Big Beautiful Bill That Fell Far Short Of North Carolina’s \$50 Billion Medicaid Funding Loss Originally Caused By The Bill

The One Big Beautiful Bill Included A \$50 Billion Fund For Rural Health Care And Directed \$213 Million To North Carolina For 2026

The One Big Beautiful Bill Included A \$50 Billion “Rural Health Transformation Program” That Represented Just 37% Of The Estimated Loss Of Federal Medicaid Funding In Rural Areas

Republicans Included A \$50 Billion Fund For The “Rural Health Transformation Program” After Cutting Medicaid By Over \$900 Billion Over 10 Years. “On July 4, 2025, President Trump signed a budget reconciliation bill into law that includes significant reductions in federal health care spending, large tax cuts, and other changes. The new law will reduce federal Medicaid spending alone by \$911 billion over ten years and lead to 10 million more people becoming uninsured by 2034 based on Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates. While this

legislation was being debated, Members of Congress from both parties raised concerns about the potential impact on rural hospitals, particularly given the ongoing trend of rural hospital closures. In response, and just prior to passage, the Senate added \$50 billion in funding for a new ‘rural health transformation program,’ referred to here as the ‘rural health fund.’” [KFF, [8/4/25](#)]

KFF: The \$50 Billion Fund Represented Just 37% Of The Estimated Loss Of Federal Medicaid Funding In Rural Areas, Or 5% Of The Total Federal Medicaid Cuts Nationwide. “The \$50 billion in new funding could offset a little over a third (37%) of the estimated cuts to federal Medicaid spending in rural areas (\$137 billion over ten years) based on KFF analysis of CBO’s estimates, or about 5% of the total estimated cuts to federal Medicaid spending (\$911 billion over ten years). This does not account for other revenue losses related to the bill, including cuts to federal spending for the ACA Marketplaces, or the revenue losses stemming from the increased number of people who will be uninsured because of the expiration of the enhanced ACA premium tax credits and the implementation of final Marketplace integrity rules. The impact of these changes on rural areas, and the extent to which the rural health fund offsets losses, will vary across the country.” [KFF, [8/4/25](#)]

The Trump Administration Awarded North Carolina \$213 Million From The Rural Health Care Fund For 2026

January 2026: The Federal Government Awarded North Carolina \$213 Million To Support Rural Hospitals. “The federal government has awarded \$213 million to North Carolina to help support rural health care. The funding backed by Congressman Chuck Edwards comes from the Rural Health Transformation Program. ‘The program has worked exactly like we intended for it to work. We’ve got a lot of work yet to do to improve our healthcare system in America,’ Edwards said.” [ABC 13, [1/4/26](#)]

CMS Announced The Rural Health Transformation Program Would Provide Funding For Five Years From FY 2026 Through FY 2030. “RHT Program funding is \$50 billion to be allocated to approved States over five fiscal years, with \$10 billion of funding available each fiscal year, beginning in fiscal year 2026 and ending in fiscal year 2030. 50% to be distributed equally amongst all approved States 50% will be allocated by CMS based on a variety of factors including rural population, the proportion of rural health facilities in the State, the situation of certain hospitals in the State, and other factors to be specified by CMS in the NOFO.” [Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, accessed [1/6/26](#)]

Buckhout Said The Solution To Rural Hospitals’ Struggle Was The Rural Health Funding Included In The Big Beautiful Bill

VIDEO: Buckhout Said The Solution To Rural Hospitals’ Struggle Was The Rural Health Funding Included In The Big Beautiful Bill. “For starters, I’ve been all over this district, and there are counties in this district that are among the poorest in the United States. They don’t have access to health care. Hospitals have been closed. They don’t have access to emergency facilities, and I see that a lot of because there’s not a tax base, there are not jobs, and people are truly suffering. We have to access the Rural Health Care associations put forth in the big, beautiful bill so we can help folks living in those communities. We have to push health care down and what you have to have is an active representative in Congress who’s willing to fight for that. You haven’t had that here in North Carolina, in the in the first congressional district, for decades. Nobody’s been pushing funding down here. Nobody’s been pushing jobs down here to create a tax base, which in turn is going to create better health facilities, better education facilities, better recreation facilities, etc. You got to have a fighter ready to bring those funds down and help open up rural health care opportunities. We need them desperately.” [WNCT NC-01 GOP Candidate Debate, 13:38, [2/19/26](#)] (VIDEO)

The One Big Beautiful Bill Was Slated To Cost North Carolina \$50 Billion In Medicaid Funding

NC Department Of Health And Human Services: North Carolina Would Lose \$50 Billion Over Ten Years From The Big Beautiful Bill

NCDHHS: North Carolina Was Projected To Lose \$50 Billion In Medicaid Funding, Which Would Disproportionately Affect Rural North Carolinians. “The North Carolina Department of Health and Human

Services announced today it will begin preparing to submit its application to receive funding from the Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP). The program is part of H.R. 1, a federal bill signed into law by President Trump in July to address rural health concerns due to federal cuts to the Medicaid program. NCDHHS has created a website with a link for providers to give feedback now on what should be considered for North Carolina's application and will host several opportunities for partner organizations to provide input for the state's RHTP application in the coming months. The Medicaid program will see cuts resulting in approximately \$1 trillion in losses nationwide in the next 10 years due to H.R. 1, including \$49.9 billion in North Carolina, and these cuts will disproportionately impact people who live in rural communities. NCDHHS works to create a healthier state for everyone who calls this state home, including the more than 3 million people in rural North Carolina." [NCDHHS, [8/14/25](#)]

Mountain Area Health Education Center CEO William Hathaway Said Medicaid Cuts Weakened Rural Hospitals' Finances. "While the One Big Beautiful Bill or H.R. 1 helped approve this funding initiative, that same law also created stricter eligibility requirements for Medicaid, which could impact finances for rural hospitals. 'They're critically dependent on Medicaid and federal dollars to stay afloat. So when you cut those services for the hospitals specifically, there's great risk to their financial viability,' said William Hathaway, the CEO of Mountain Area Health Education Center (MAHEC)." [ABC 13, [1/4/26](#)]

Hathaway Said The Big Beautiful Bill's Rural Health Funds Were Appreciated, But They Did Not Come Close To Recouping The \$50 Billion North Carolina Hospitals Were Losing From The Big Beautiful Bill. "These stricter eligibility requirements are not the only concern because the One Big Beautiful Bill also includes significant cuts to Medicaid funding. Hathaway says that while MAHEC is excited about the opportunity of this program, it does not come close to offsetting the loss in Medicaid dollars. 'This will be \$200 million a year for five years. So a total of a billion dollars to the state of North Carolina at a time when over the next 10 years we will see a loss of \$50 billion from the federal government in Medicaid funding,' Hathaway said." [ABC 13, [1/4/26](#)]

Hathaway: "So A Total Of A Billion Dollars To The State Of North Carolina At A Time When Over The Next 10 Years We Will See A Loss Of \$50 Billion From The Federal Government In Medicaid Funding." "These stricter eligibility requirements are not the only concern because the One Big Beautiful Bill also includes significant cuts to Medicaid funding. Hathaway says that while MAHEC is excited about the opportunity of this program, it does not come close to offsetting the loss in Medicaid dollars. 'This will be \$200 million a year for five years. So a total of a billion dollars to the state of North Carolina at a time when over the next 10 years we will see a loss of \$50 billion from the federal government in Medicaid funding,' Hathaway said." [ABC 13, [1/4/26](#)]

Buckhout Supported The Reckless Tariff Policy That Put Thousands Of Agriculture Jobs At Risk, Jeopardized North Carolina's Tobacco Industry, And Raised Costs For Families

Buckhout Supported Tariffs And Defended Trade Policies Claiming The Tariffs Would Lead To Lower Prices

2026: Buckhout Supported Tariffs

2026: Buckhout Supported Tariffs. "At a First Congressional District GOP primary debate on Feb. 19, held by WNCT, the discussion of tariffs, now made more relevant by the US Supreme Court's Feb. 20 decision to strike down President Donald Trump's emergency authority to implement them, took center stage. Of the five candidates vying to challenge Democratic incumbent US Rep. Don Davis in the general election, four of them — Laurie Buckhout, a former Army colonel; Asa Buck, the Carteret County sheriff; Eric Rouse, a Lenoir County commissioner; and state Sen. Bobby Hanig of Currituck County — participated in the debate. [...] Laurie Buckhout, who won the Republican primary for the same district in 2024, kicked off the discussion. 'I think that tariffs are a temporary measure to address a trade imbalance that previous Democratic presidents have been putting into practice that have put us in a really terrible position in terms of tariffing our goods at ridiculous rates while allowing other nations to pour their cheap and un-tariffed products into America,' said Buckhout. 'It's time that we level the playing field, and I know that President Trump is doing that. And it takes some time to level the playing

field; we have been playing at a disadvantage for so long.’ Buckhout praised Trump’s success with European countries and Canada, calling him a ‘master negotiator.’ She emphasized her belief in staying the course, stating that ‘we are going to come out on top,’ but it takes some time to get there.” [The Carolina Journal, [2/20/26](#)]

- **Buckhout: “I Think That Tariffs Are A Temporary Measure To Address A Trade Imbalance That Previous Democratic Presidents Have Been Putting Into Practice That Have Put Us In A Really Terrible Position In Terms Of Tariffing Our Goods At Ridiculous Rates While Allowing Other Nations To Pour Their Cheap And Un-Tariffed Products Into America.”** “At a First Congressional District GOP primary debate on Feb. 19, held by WNCT, the discussion of tariffs, now made more relevant by the US Supreme Court’s Feb. 20 decision to strike down President Donald Trump’s emergency authority to implement them, took center stage. Of the five candidates vying to challenge Democratic incumbent US Rep. Don Davis in the general election, four of them — Laurie Buckhout, a former Army colonel; Asa Buck, the Carteret County sheriff; Eric Rouse, a Lenoir County commissioner; and state Sen. Bobby Hanig of Currituck County — participated in the debate. [...] Laurie Buckhout, who won the Republican primary for the same district in 2024, kicked off the discussion. ‘I think that tariffs are a temporary measure to address a trade imbalance that previous Democratic presidents have been putting into practice that have put us in a really terrible position in terms of tariffing our goods at ridiculous rates while allowing other nations to pour their cheap and un-tariffed products into America,’ said Buckhout. ‘It’s time that we level the playing field, and I know that President Trump is doing that. And it takes some time to level the playing field; we have been playing at a disadvantage for so long.’ Buckhout praised Trump’s success with European countries and Canada, calling him a ‘master negotiator.’ She emphasized her belief in staying the course, stating that ‘we are going to come out on top,’ but it takes some time to get there.” [The Carolina Journal, [2/20/26](#)]
- **Buckhout On Tariffs: “It Is About Leveling The Playing Field, And The Folks That I Talk To Understand That Sometimes There Has To Be Some Short-Term Pinch In Order To Affect A Long-Term Gain And Level The Playing Field So That We Can Have Equality Across Our Markets With Regard To Our Crops And Commodities That Are Being Sold.”** “Buckhout praised Trump’s success with European countries and Canada, calling him a ‘master negotiator.’ She emphasized her belief in staying the course, stating that ‘we are going to come out on top,’ but it takes some time to get there. ‘It’s not what I say to farmers, it’s what I hear farmers say to me,’ said Buckhout. ‘The farmers that I talk to they tell me that they understand what the president is doing. It is about leveling the playing field, and the folks that I talk to understand that sometimes there has to be some short-term pinch in order to affect a long-term gain and level the playing field so that we can have equality across our markets with regard to our crops and commodities that are being sold.’” [The Carolina Journal, [2/20/26](#)]
- **Reflector Headline: “GOP Candidates In North Carolina’s 1st Back Trump Tariffs.”** [Reflector, [2/24/26](#)]

2026: Buckhout’s Message To North Carolina Farmers Suffering From Tariffs Was To Wait For Trade Deals To Be Finalized

VIDEO: Buckhout’s Message To North Carolina Farmers Suffering From Tariffs Was To Wait Longer For Trade Deals To Be Finalized. MODERATOR: “And this is Buckhout again. We are starting with you. What do you say to farmers who feel these policies are hurting their livelihood? You have 60 seconds.” BUCKHOUT: “You know, I think that the tariffs are a temporary measure to address a trade imbalance that previous Democrat presidents have been putting into practice that have put us in a really terrible position in terms of tariffing our goods, it at ridiculous rates, while allowing other nations to pour their their cheap and their untariffed products into America, agricultural engineering products and all sorts of, you know, household words, etc. It’s time that we level the playing field. And I know that President Trump is doing that, and it takes some time to level that playing field. We have been playing at a disadvantage for so long. I know he’s having great successes with European countries. He’s had success with Canada, and it’s something that I believe we need to stay the course to even it out. President Trump is a master negotiator, and we’re going to come out on top, and it takes a little bit of time to get there.” [WNCT NC-01 GOP Candidate Debate, 2:59, [2/19/26](#)] (VIDEO)

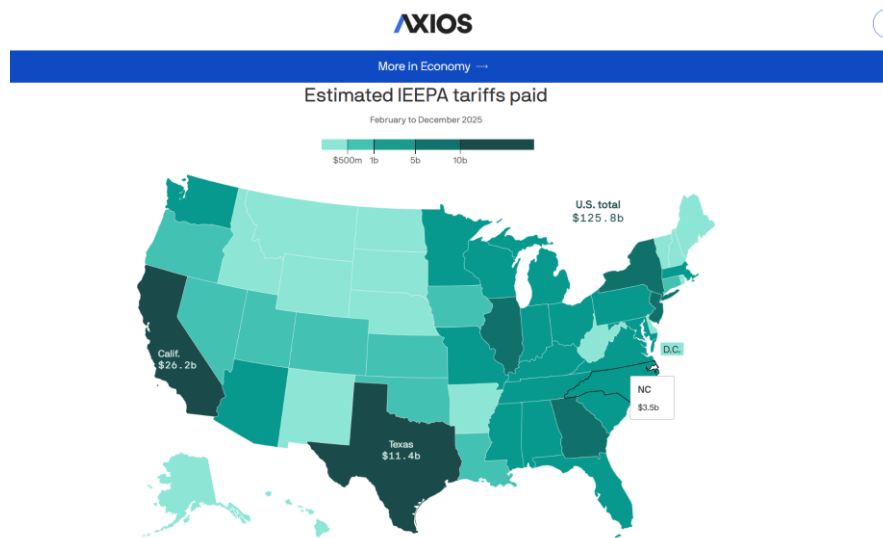
- **Buckhout Said It Would Take “Some Time” To Level The “Playing Field.”** “During Thursday’s 1st Congressional District debate, three of the four GOP candidates on stage acknowledged the financial pain local farmers are feeling. But all four of them supported keeping the tariffs in place, saying they trusted Trump’s vision. [...] ‘It’s time that we level the playing field,’ candidate Laurie Buckhout said. ‘And I know that President Trump is doing that, and it takes some time.’” [WRAL News, [2/20/26](#)]

2026: Buckhout Said Tariffs Would Lead To Prices Going Down

VIDEO: Buckhout: “The America First Agenda, The Tariffs Are Going To Lead To Prices Going Down On The Products That We Need, And Putting Americans Back To Work Are Going To Lead To Prices Going Down.” “Thank you. You know there are a couple issues there. Number one, government doesn't have a big government, doesn't have a revenue problem, that has a spending problem. You have to stop the spending that's bleeding America's dry, and that's taking money out of their pockets in terms of taxes, every time you turn around the drill, baby drill, actually getting back to American energy, we're beginning to feel the effects of that as gas prices go down that other prices associated with products, with transportation, et cetera, those go down. The America first agenda, the tariffs are going to lead to prices going down on the products that we need, and putting Americans back to work are going to lead to prices going down. So everything that the America first agenda right now is doing is absolutely on track. We need to continue on that area, bringing back American energy, bringing back American jobs, and making sure that people can keep their money in their pockets, instead of giving it to egregious taxes to play to pay for people who are not even citizens.” [WNCT NC-01 GOP Candidate Debate, 16:56, [2/19/26](#)] (VIDEO)

North Carolina Paid \$3.5 Billion In Tariff Costs

2025: North Carolina Paid \$3.5 Billion In Tariff Costs Trump Implemented Under The International Emergency Economic Powers Act. [Axios, [2/20/26](#)]



[Axios, [2/20/26](#)]

- **Axios: Trump’s Tariffs Likely Made Goods More Expensive As Businesses Passed Higher Costs Onto Everyday Americans.** “Roughly \$126 billion is now potentially up for grabs after the Supreme Court struck down a swath of President Trump's tariffs on Friday, according to the Trade Partnership Worldwide. Why it matters: Those tariffs likely made all kinds of stuff more expensive as businesses passed higher costs onto everyday Americans, but the ruling now could lead to a chaotic refund process — and it's unclear who gets to pocket that cash. [...] State of play: The overturned IEEPA tariffs mean that billions of dollars are now in limbo across America, according to economic research firm Trade Partnership Worldwide, based on trade from February to December 2025.” [Axios, [2/20/26](#)]

The Reckless Tariff Policy Could Result In \$695 Million In Losses And 8,000 Lost Jobs In North Carolina As North Carolina Farmers Were Struggling To Sell Their Products Overseas Because Of Retaliatory Tariffs Impacting The State's Agricultural Industry

Tariffs Impacting The Agriculture Industry Could Result In \$695 Million In Losses And 8,000 Lost Jobs In North Carolina And Put An Industry Responsible For One Sixth Of The State's Overall Income At Risk

Tariffs Impacting The Agriculture Industry Could Result In \$695 Million In Losses And 8,000 Lost Jobs In North Carolina

The Tariffs Could Result In \$695 Million In Losses And 8,000 Lost Jobs In North Carolina. “Agriculture in North Carolina, its rural economy, and even the state economy all face considerable risks if major trading partners such as China, the European Union, Canada, and Mexico retaliate against the U.S. to protest President Donald Trump’s more aggressive trade policy. This paper attempts to estimate the impacts on several crops important to North Carolina’s agriculture industry — and on the economy as a whole — of retaliatory tariffs that may result from Trump’s tariff agenda. To evaluate these impacts, the author looks to historical examples to gauge potential economic consequences of large disruptions in international trade as well as to estimations in the academic literature of the price sensitivities of certain commodities to a drop in exports. The estimated losses would deal a significant blow to North Carolina’s economy. For what seem like plausible reductions in agricultural exports, the potential losses to the state’s farming industry included in this paper add up to \$695 million. That represents approximately one-third of average net farm income in North Carolina. Such a contraction would lead to a total of roughly 8,000 lost jobs, both directly in the agriculture industry along with the ripple effects from that lost revenue. The job losses would be concentrated in North Carolina’s rural communities. Factoring in indirect effects on the rural economy of North Carolina adds additional estimated revenue losses on the order of \$1.2 billion. That brings potential total economic losses due to trade policy retaliation to \$1.9 billion, equal to over 2 percent of the gross state product of North Carolina.” [John Locke, How Tariffs Threaten North Carolina Agriculture, by Jeffrey Dorfman, [1/12/26](#)]

- **Dorfman: “The Job Losses Would Be Concentrated In North Carolina’s Rural Communities.”** “Agriculture in North Carolina, its rural economy, and even the state economy all face considerable risks if major trading partners such as China, the European Union, Canada, and Mexico retaliate against the U.S. to protest President Donald Trump’s more aggressive trade policy. This paper attempts to estimate the impacts on several crops important to North Carolina’s agriculture industry — and on the economy as a whole — of retaliatory tariffs that may result from Trump’s tariff agenda. To evaluate these impacts, the author looks to historical examples to gauge potential economic consequences of large disruptions in international trade as well as to estimations in the academic literature of the price sensitivities of certain commodities to a drop in exports. The estimated losses would deal a significant blow to North Carolina’s economy. For what seem like plausible reductions in agricultural exports, the potential losses to the state’s farming industry included in this paper add up to \$695 million. That represents approximately one-third of average net farm income in North Carolina. Such a contraction would lead to a total of roughly 8,000 lost jobs, both directly in the agriculture industry along with the ripple effects from that lost revenue. The job losses would be concentrated in North Carolina’s rural communities. Factoring in indirect effects on the rural economy of North Carolina adds additional estimated revenue losses on the order of \$1.2 billion. That brings potential total economic losses due to trade policy retaliation to \$1.9 billion, equal to over 2 percent of the gross state product of North Carolina.” [John Locke, How Tariffs Threaten North Carolina Agriculture, by Jeffrey Dorfman, [1/12/26](#)]
- **Dorfman: Trump’s Tariffs And Trade Policy Retaliation Could Result In An Economic Loss Of \$1.9 Billion.** “Other indirect effects on the state’s rural economy would result in an additional \$1.2 billion in estimated revenue losses, Dorfman wrote. This brings the potential total economic losses as a result of trade policy retaliation to \$1.9 billion, which is more than 2% of North Carolina’s gross state product. Donald Bryson, CEO of the Locke Foundation, a free-market think tank, said the organization commissioned the study

because it has become increasingly concerned about the effect of recent agricultural policies on the state's food supply chain." [NC Newline, [1/16/26](#)]

- **Dorfman Was A Professor Of Agricultural And Resource Economics At North Carolina State.** "Jeffrey Dorfman is the Hugh C. Kiger Distinguished Professor of Agricultural and Resource Economics at North Carolina State University. In this role, he teaches, performs research on the broad area of the economics and management of the food industry, and fills an extension role assisting growers, industry, and policy makers on topics of pricing, marketing, management, and policy issues." [John Locke, How Tariffs Threaten North Carolina Agriculture, by Jeffrey Dorfman, [1/12/26](#)]
- **The Carolina Journal Headline: "Report Warns Tariffs Could Cost NC Farms \$700M, 8,000 Jobs."** [The Carolina Journal, [1/13/26](#)]

North Carolina Chamber: The Agricultural Industry Represented One-Sixth Of North Carolina's Overall Income And Contributed \$111 Billion Annually To The State

North Carolina Chamber: The Agricultural Industry Supported One-Fifth Of North Carolina's Overall Income And Contributed Over \$100 Billion Annually To The State. "Agriculture and agribusiness remain foundational to North Carolina's economy, generating more than \$100 billion annually and supporting nearly one in five jobs across the state. North Carolina boasts the nation's third-most-diverse agriculture economy, producing over 80 commercial crops alongside a thriving animal agriculture sector that makes up 70% of total farm sales. We lead the nation in sweet potatoes, tobacco, and poultry/egg sales. Beyond its economic impact, agriculture plays a critical role in North Carolina's long-term competitiveness, food and national security, supply-chain resilience, and rural economic vitality." [North Carolina Chamber, Agriculture & Agribusiness, accessed [6/1/26](#)]

North Carolina Farmers Were Struggling To Sell Their Products Overseas As Countries Responded To American Trade Policies With Retaliatory Tariffs Putting Billions Of Dollars Worth Of Trade At Risk In The State

The United States Raised Tariffs On Foreign Imports To The U.S. Trade Partners Leading To Retaliatory Tariffs And A Trade War

NC Newline: "Over The Past Year, President Donald Trump Has Raised Tariffs On Foreign Imports To The U.S. Major Trade Partners Like The European Union, China And Canada Imposed Retaliatory Tariffs In Response, Leading To Trade Wars And Increased Prices Across The Board." "Retaliatory tariffs could have harsh economic consequences for North Carolina's agricultural sector, according to a new report from the John Locke Foundation. Over the past year, President Donald Trump has raised tariffs on foreign imports to the U.S. Major trade partners like the European Union, China and Canada imposed retaliatory tariffs in response, leading to trade wars and increased prices across the board. 'How Tariffs Threaten North Carolina Agriculture: NC Farmers at Risk,' authored by Jeffrey Dorfman at North Carolina State University, estimates the tariffs could cost the state's farmers about \$695 million. This figure represents roughly a third of average net farm income in North Carolina. 'Such a contraction would lead to a total of roughly 8,000 lost jobs, both directly in the agriculture industry along with the ripple effects from that lost revenue,' Dorfman wrote. 'The job losses would be concentrated in North Carolina's rural communities.'" [NC Newline, [1/16/26](#)]

- **NC Newline Headline: "Tariffs Could Wipe Out Nearly A Third Of NC Farm Income, New Report Says."** [NC Newline, [1/16/26](#)]

13 News: North Carolina Farmers Were Struggling To Sell Their Products Overseas As Countries Responds To Trump's Trade Policies With Retaliatory Tariffs

13 News: North Carolina Farmers Were Struggling To Sell Their Products Overseas As Countries Responds To Trump's Trade Policies With Retaliatory Tariffs. "Tariffs designed to protect American manufacturing are having an unintended side effect for North Carolina farmers driving up costs and shrinking overseas markets. On

his farm, Mike Jones says the impact is hard to miss. His tractor, van, and fencing all rely on parts or raw materials sourced from outside the United States. Jones says repair parts now cost 20 to 25 percent more than they did a year ago, and even equipment labeled ‘Made in America’ often includes materials imported from countries now facing steep tariffs. New research from an agriculture professor at North Carolina State University, published through the John Locke Foundation, estimates tariffs are costing North Carolina farmers nearly \$700 million. The report also warns the losses could lead to more than 8,000 jobs disappearing statewide. It’s not just higher costs. Farmers are also struggling to sell their products overseas as other countries respond with retaliatory tariffs. ‘When we do broad-based tariffs to every country, those countries retaliate,’ said Donald Bryson with the John Locke Foundation. ‘That puts a lot of pressure on North Carolina’s farmers who no longer have a market to sell to.’ Jones says many farmers took major financial hits this year. ‘A lot of them lost a lot of money,’ he said.” [13 News, [1/15/26](#)]

- **13 News Now Headline: “Farmers Say Tariffs Are Raising Prices You’ll Eventually Pay.”** [13 News, [1/15/26](#)]
- **Washington Post Headline: “Trump’s Tariffs War Is Sparking Uncertainty For North Carolina Farmers.”** [Washington Post, [4/14/25](#)]

North Carolina Department Of Commerce: Trade Was Critical To North Carolina’s Economy And Accounted For Nearly \$43 Billion In Export Revenue And \$88 Billion In Imported Products For North Carolina’s Economy

North Carolina Department Of Commerce: Trade Was Critical To North Carolina’s Economy. “Trade is critical to North Carolina's economy – accounting for nearly \$43 billion in export revenue and \$88 billion in imported products and materials. Trade relationships with China, Mexico, Canada, and the European Union are particularly important for our state. Increased tariffs on our imports and exports will have immediate impacts on NC consumers, businesses, and ultimately jobs. Sectors such as pharmaceuticals, transportation equipment, electronics, and machinery are especially exposed due to their reliance on global supply chains. Tariff policies on U.S. imports may have implications for domestic manufacturing. As the U.S.’s 8th largest state in manufacturing GDP, North Carolina would be positioned to experience shifts related to potential industry reshoring or growth. However, reestablishing new manufacturing capacity involves long-term investments in facilities, workforce, and supply chains. These shifts may also coincide with ongoing trends in automation and advanced manufacturing (Industry 4.0), where companies across the industry are increasingly adopting robotics, AI, and relying on a more specialized, high-skilled workers These trends present both opportunities and challenges for education and workforce development systems as they adapt to evolving labor market needs. As national trade policies evolve, North Carolina's economic future will depend on how effectively businesses, workers, and communities adapt to shifting global markets. Understanding these trade dynamics is essential for anyone concerned with the state's economic resilience and long-term prosperity.” [North Carolina Department Of Commerce, [4/14/25](#)]

- **Trade Accounted For Nearly \$43 Billion In Export Revenue And \$88 Billion In Imported Products For North Carolina’s Economy.** “Trade is critical to North Carolina's economy – accounting for nearly \$43 billion in export revenue and \$88 billion in imported products and materials. Trade relationships with China, Mexico, Canada, and the European Union are particularly important for our state. Increased tariffs on our imports and exports will have immediate impacts on NC consumers, businesses, and ultimately jobs. Sectors such as pharmaceuticals, transportation equipment, electronics, and machinery are especially exposed due to their reliance on global supply chains. Tariff policies on U.S. imports may have implications for domestic manufacturing. As the U.S.’s 8th largest state in manufacturing GDP, North Carolina would be positioned to experience shifts related to potential industry reshoring or growth. However, reestablishing new manufacturing capacity involves long-term investments in facilities, workforce, and supply chains. These shifts may also coincide with ongoing trends in automation and advanced manufacturing (Industry 4.0), where companies across the industry are increasingly adopting robotics, AI, and relying on a more specialized, high-skilled workers These trends present both opportunities and challenges for education and workforce development systems as they adapt to evolving labor market needs. As national trade policies evolve, North Carolina's economic future will depend on how effectively businesses, workers, and communities adapt to shifting global

markets. Understanding these trade dynamics is essential for anyone concerned with the state's economic resilience and long-term prosperity.” [North Carolina Department Of Commerce, [4/14/25](#)]

China Did Not Agree To Buy U.S. Flue-Cured Tobacco Because Of The Trade War, Which Threatened North Carolina’s Economy As The Country’s Largest Tobacco Producer With Over 800 Tobacco Farms That Generated \$557 Million In Revenue And Employed 5,000 Workers

China Did Not Agree To Buy The 2025 American Flue-Cured Tobacco Crop And Delayed Or Refused To Pay For Purchased 2024 Tobacco Leaf Because Of Tariffs

2025: China Tobacco International Notified U.S. Suppliers They Would Not Purchase The American Flue-Cured Tobacco 2025 Crop

2025: China Tobacco International Notified U.S. Suppliers They Would Not Purchase The American Flue-Cured Tobacco 2025 Crop. “North Carolina’s flue-cured tobacco sector is staring at a volatile harvest season as U.S.-China trade tensions shift month to month and buyers reassess 2025 contracts. China Tobacco International has notified suppliers it will not purchase flue-cured tobacco from the 2025 crop — the same crop farmers are currently harvesting — citing uncertainty related to the unstable geopolitical landscape, particularly tariffs. The cancellation, effective Tuesday, was confirmed to North State Journal by N.C. Agribusiness Council President Jeffrey Lee. ‘It’s the whole entire flue-cured tobacco belt,’ Lee said. ‘Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia.’ President Donald Trump has used tariffs as a bargaining chip against other nations in an effort to lessen levies on American goods. The Trump administration has engaged in back-and-forth negotiations with China that have led to a 10% increase on Chinese goods, but proposed stiffer tariffs have been paused multiple times as the two nations discuss a trade deal.” [North State Journal, [8/21/25](#)]

- **North State Journal Headline: “NC Tobacco Farmers Face Uncertainty As China Cancels Contracts.”** [North State Journal, [8/21/25](#)]

2025: China Did Not Agree To Buy American Flue-Cure Tobacco Because Of The Trade War. “A major industry in North Carolina remains on edge after an agriculture deal between the U.S. and China last week did not include tobacco. Triple B Farms in eastern North Carolina is one piece of a critical industry in North Carolina. Sixty percent of all U.S. tobacco production is from the state. But this summer, Brandon Batten suffered a blow when China announced it would not purchase flue-cured tobacco in the 2025 crop. ‘It’s put an incredible amount of downward pressure on the price,’ Batten said. ‘Anywhere from 20 to 25% off of where we expected to be.’ China is the leading international buyer of American flue-cured tobacco, which is used to make cigarettes, so losing it was a big deal. ‘The assumption is that it was all to have leverage in their meeting with President Trump on tariffs,’ said N.C. State agriculture professor Jeffrey Dorfman. ‘And that’s the same reason they stopped buying soybeans.’” [Spectrum Local News, [11/4/25](#)]

U.S. Lawmakers Highlighted That Chinese Buyers Delayed Or Refused To Pay For Purchased 2024 Tobacco Leaf In Response To The Trade War With China

U.S. Lawmakers Highlighted That Chinese Buyers Delayed Or Refused To Pay For Purchased 2024 Tobacco Leaf In Response To The Trade War With China. “On Oct 28, Sen. Ted Budd, R-NC, joined Rep. David Rouzer, R-CD07, in leading a bipartisan effort in Congress to urge President Donald Trump to prioritize flue-cured tobacco in his upcoming meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping. China is the leading international purchaser of American flue-cured tobacco. Farmers were recently notified that China will not buy flue-cured tobacco from the 2025 crop, a move widely seen as an attempt to gain leverage in ongoing trade negotiations with the United States. This decision leaves approximately 65 million pounds of tobacco without a buyer, resulting in an estimated \$220 million in lost export value. ‘Chinese buyers have delayed or refused to pay for purchased 2024 tobacco leaf, including the refusal of shipments from earlier this year,’ wrote lawmakers. ‘The impact on rural communities will be devastating, forcing growers out of tobacco production and threatening the stability of other crops, which depend on tobacco revenues to keep production going. Global competitors such as Brazil and India will quickly fill the gap,

displacing U.S. farmers. We urge you to remedy China's trade practices and ensure our growers maintain this important market.” [The Carolina Journal, [10/29/25](#)]

North Carolina Was Number One Tobacco Producer In The United States Accounting For Over Half Of U.S. Flue-Cured Tobacco

North Carolina Produced More Than Half Of All U.S. Flue-Cured Tobacco. “North Carolina’s flue-cured tobacco sector is staring at a volatile harvest season as U.S.-China trade tensions shift month to month and buyers reassess 2025 contracts. China Tobacco International has notified suppliers it will not purchase flue-cured tobacco from the 2025 crop — the same crop farmers are currently harvesting — citing uncertainty related to the unstable geopolitical landscape, particularly tariffs. The cancellation, effective Tuesday, was confirmed to North State Journal by N.C. Agribusiness Council President Jeffrey Lee. [...] The tobacco decision threatens to eliminate approximately \$220 million in export value and diminish farm output by 65 million pounds, a hit that could push many farmers out of tobacco production. North Carolina produces more than half of all U.S. flue-cured tobacco, so any disruption would affect the state. [...] ‘Without the Chinese market, many farmers may have no choice but to abandon tobacco or even exit agriculture altogether,’ said Brooks Barnes, a third-generation tobacco farmer in Lucama. ‘This is a decision I hope I am not forced to make.’” [North State Journal, [8/21/25](#)]

The Carolina Journal: North Carolina Was Number One Tobacco Producer In The United States Accounting For 60% Of U.S. Tobacco. “North Carolina, the nation’s leader in tobacco exports, could face economic fallout from the Trump administration’s recent tariff increases, which have set off a spiraling trade war. North Carolina produces 260.1 million pounds of tobacco annually, accounting for 60% of US tobacco production and making North Carolina the No. 1 producer in the nation. ‘I know tobacco growers are busy planting their crops now to honor the 2025 contracts they have in place with China,’ Steve Troxler, commissioner of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) told the Carolina Journal. ‘In the meantime, we continue to monitor these trade negotiations very closely, waiting to see what the outcome will be because it is a very fluid situation. Going back to the last trade negotiations that were initiated, the president was very good about helping farmers who had adverse effects. In fact, he was the first president in a very long time who included tobacco.’” [The Carolina Journal, [4/22/25](#)]

China Was The Leading International Buyer Of American Flue-Cured Tobacco

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- **Some North Carolina Farmers Said Half Of The Tobacco They Grew Went To China.** “‘I was disappointed... the fact that it wasn’t mentioned is of concern because it is huge for our state,’ said Batten, who co-owns Triple B Farms. ‘I think just mentioning it could have moved the needle some.’ Batten said if China doesn’t resume its purchases next year it could have a significant financial impact. He said a little more than half of the tobacco he grows goes to China. ‘Certainly something needed to be done on the unfair trade policies we had been exposed to over the last several years, even decades. But the short-term pain, you got to be able to survive that, to make it to the long-term benefits,’ Batten said. Brent Leggett is a partner of Leggett Farming Partnership in North Carolina and says tobacco is the top revenue generator for his farm. He’s optimistic an agreement will be reached. ‘Hopefully, we can have a trade deal where China can once again be a great customer of the U.S.,’ Leggett said.” [Spectrum Local News, [11/4/25](#)]

- **Spectrum Local News Headline: “N.C. Farmers On Edge After Trump-China Deal Leaves Out Tobacco.”** [Spectrum Local News, [11/4/25](#)]

Public Radio For Eastern North Carolina: China Was The Largest Buyer Of U.S. Flue-Cured Tobacco Buying Between 60-65 Million Pounds A Year. “An eastern North Carolina lawmaker is calling on the federal government to take action to support North Carolina’s flue-cured tobacco farmers, who are facing significant financial hardship after the abrupt halt of exports to China. In a letter sent this week to U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer and Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins, Representative Don Davis urged immediate coordination between their departments to help protect tobacco growers and provide relief for the mounting losses. ‘Flue-cured tobacco is a cornerstone of eastern North Carolina’s economy,’ Davis said. ‘When trade disruptions occur, tobacco growers should not be left experiencing the greatest harm.’ China has historically been the largest buyer of U.S. flue-cured tobacco, buying between 60–65 million pounds each year, but the recent withdrawal of Chinese buyers has left nearly 60 million pounds of unsold product with a more than \$220 million export value.” [Public Radio For Eastern North Carolina, [10/7/25](#)]

China’s Decision To Not Buy American Flue-Cured Tobacco Threatened To Eliminate Approximately \$220 Million In Export Value And Diminish Farm Output By 65 Million Pounds

China’s Decision To Not Buy American Flue-Cured Tobacco Threatened To Eliminate Approximately \$220 Million In Export Value And Diminish Farm Output By 65 Million Pounds. “North Carolina’s flue-cured tobacco sector is staring at a volatile harvest season as U.S.-China trade tensions shift month to month and buyers reassess 2025 contracts. China Tobacco International has notified suppliers it will not purchase flue-cured tobacco from the 2025 crop — the same crop farmers are currently harvesting — citing uncertainty related to the unstable geopolitical landscape, particularly tariffs. The cancellation, effective Tuesday, was confirmed to North State Journal by N.C. Agribusiness Council President Jeffrey Lee. [...] The tobacco decision threatens to eliminate approximately \$220 million in export value and diminish farm output by 65 million pounds, a hit that could push many farmers out of tobacco production. North Carolina produces more than half of all U.S. flue-cured tobacco, so any disruption would affect the state. [...] ‘Without the Chinese market, many farmers may have no choice but to abandon tobacco or even exit agriculture altogether,’ said Brooks Barnes, a third-generation tobacco farmer in Lucama. ‘This is a decision I hope I am not forced to make.’” [North State Journal, [8/21/25](#)]

- **North Carolina Farmer: “Without The Chinese Market, Many Farmers May Have No Choice But To Abandon Tobacco Or Even Exit Agriculture Altogether.”** “North Carolina’s flue-cured tobacco sector is staring at a volatile harvest season as U.S.-China trade tensions shift month to month and buyers reassess 2025 contracts. China Tobacco International has notified suppliers it will not purchase flue-cured tobacco from the 2025 crop — the same crop farmers are currently harvesting — citing uncertainty related to the unstable geopolitical landscape, particularly tariffs. The cancellation, effective Tuesday, was confirmed to North State Journal by N.C. Agribusiness Council President Jeffrey Lee. [...] The tobacco decision threatens to eliminate approximately \$220 million in export value and diminish farm output by 65 million pounds, a hit that could push many farmers out of tobacco production. North Carolina produces more than half of all U.S. flue-cured tobacco, so any disruption would affect the state. [...] ‘Without the Chinese market, many farmers may have no choice but to abandon tobacco or even exit agriculture altogether,’ said Brooks Barnes, a third-generation tobacco farmer in Lucama. ‘This is a decision I hope I am not forced to make.’” [North State Journal, [8/21/25](#)]

Tariffs Put North Carolina’s Tobacco Industry That Had 822 Tobacco Farms That Generated \$557 Million In Revenue And Employed 5,000 Workers At Risk

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North Carolina Had 822 Tobacco Farms That Generated \$557 Million In Revenue And Employed 5,000 Workers. “In 2024, North Carolina exported \$5.9 billion in goods to China, according to the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative. China remains a key buyer across multiple N.C. commodities, including oilseeds and meat. Trade groups and USDA data show farm communities remain tightly tied to export demand — about one-fifth of

U.S. farm production by value is sold abroad. The state's tobacco footprint extends far beyond fields. According to an IMPLAN-based analysis, North Carolina's 822 tobacco farms generated \$557 million in revenue and \$197 million in state GDP in 2025. Tobacco manufacturing generates roughly \$36 billion in output, adds \$31 billion to GDP and employs approximately 5,000 workers earning \$370 million in wages. The wholesale sector contributes another \$15.3 billion in revenue, adds \$9 billion to GDP and employs 4,500 jobs. China has raised tariffs on U.S. goods, with reports in the tobacco trade press citing increases from 34% to 84%. Subsequent updates reported temporary tariff reductions in May while negotiations continued — underscoring how quickly the landscape can change and why exporters are hesitating. 'Without the Chinese market, many farmers may have no choice but to abandon tobacco or even exit agriculture altogether,' said Brooks Barnes, a third-generation tobacco farmer in Lucama. 'This is a decision I hope I am not forced to make.'" [North State Journal, [8/21/25](#)]

- **North State Journal Headline: "NC Tobacco Farmers Face Uncertainty As China Cancels Contracts."** [North State Journal, [8/21/25](#)]

Tobacco Manufacturers Generated \$36 Billion In Output And Contributed \$31 Billion To North Carolina's GDP

Tobacco Manufacturers Generated \$36 Billion In Output And Contributed \$31 Billion To North Carolina's GDP. "North Carolina has 822 tobacco farms, generating a revenue of \$557 million and adding \$197 million to the state's GDP, according to Regulatory Smoke: The Economic Impacts of Proposed FDA Tobacco Regulations, a report from the John Locke Foundation. Tobacco manufacturers in the state generate \$36 billion in output and contribute \$31 billion to the state's GDP, employing approximately 5,000 workers and paying them \$370 million in wages. The tobacco wholesale sector brings in \$15.3 billion in revenue, adds \$9 billion to the GDP, and supports around 4,500 jobs. The imposed tariffs could result in a significant downturn in these numbers. International markets, such as China, could also see a substantial downturn in exports due to increased tariffs, which would have a trickle-down effect on the state's economy and agriculture sector. 'China is a significant market for North Carolina agriculture, as it is the leading export market for us, and for a number of commodities including pork, poultry, tobacco, and lumber,' Troxler told CJ. 'We have worked hard to develop strong business relationships there and want to see them continue.'" [The Carolina Journal, [4/22/25](#)]

North Carolina's Tobacco Industry Was At Risk Because Of The Trade War

The Carolina Journal: "North Carolina, The Nation's Leader In Tobacco Exports, Could Face Economic Fallout From The Trump Administration's Recent Tariff Increases, Which Have Set Off A Spiraling Trade War." "North Carolina, the nation's leader in tobacco exports, could face economic fallout from the Trump administration's recent tariff increases, which have set off a spiraling trade war. North Carolina produces 260.1 million pounds of tobacco annually, accounting for 60% of US tobacco production and making North Carolina the No. 1 producer in the nation. 'I know tobacco growers are busy planting their crops now to honor the 2025 contracts they have in place with China,' Steve Troxler, commissioner of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) told the Carolina Journal. 'In the meantime, we continue to monitor these trade negotiations very closely, waiting to see what the outcome will be because it is a very fluid situation. Going back to the last trade negotiations that were initiated, the president was very good about helping farmers who had adverse effects. In fact, he was the first president in a very long time who included tobacco.'" [The Carolina Journal, [4/22/25](#)]

- **The Carolina Journal Headline: "The Impact Of Trade War On NC Tobacco."** [The Carolina Journal, [4/22/26](#)]
- **Tobacco Asia Headline: "Tariff War With China To Hit US Tobacco Farmers."** [Tobacco Asia, [5/6/25](#)]
- **Spectrum Local News Headline: "Tariffs Could Make N.C. Tobacco Farmers Collateral In Trade War With China."** [Spectrum Local News, [4/11/25](#)]

2025: North Carolina Experienced A Year-Over-Year Decline In Tobacco Production Despite Being One Of The State's Largest Commodities

2025: North Carolina Had A Year-Over-Year Decline In Tobacco Production Despite Being One Of The State's Largest Commodities. “According to the latest data from the US Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), the 2025 trade deficit was \$901.5 billion, down slightly from \$918.4 billion in 2024. Expert analysis reveals the impact of trade patterns stemming from the deficit across major industries, including agriculture and pharmaceuticals, two of the state’s largest. [...] Despite being one of the state’s largest commodities, North Carolina has seen a year-over-year decline in tobacco production. According to the BEA report, unmanufactured tobacco fell year over year by \$218 million, from \$1,059 million in 2024 to \$841 million in 2025. Manufactured tobacco increased by \$328 million from \$529 million in 2024 to \$867 million in 2025.” [The Carolina Journal, [2/23/26](#)]

- **2025: Unmanufactured Tobacco Fell Year Over Year By \$218 Million, From \$1,059 Million In North Carolina.** “According to the latest data from the US Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), the 2025 trade deficit was \$901.5 billion, down slightly from \$918.4 billion in 2024. Expert analysis reveals the impact of trade patterns stemming from the deficit across major industries, including agriculture and pharmaceuticals, two of the state’s largest. [...] Despite being one of the state’s largest commodities, North Carolina has seen a year-over-year decline in tobacco production. According to the BEA report, unmanufactured tobacco fell year over year by \$218 million, from \$1,059 million in 2024 to \$841 million in 2025. Manufactured tobacco increased by \$328 million from \$529 million in 2024 to \$867 million in 2025.” [The Carolina Journal, [2/23/26](#)]
- **The Carolina Journal Headline: “Tariffs Leave NC’s Trade Deficit Largely Unmoved.”** [The Carolina Journal, [2/23/26](#)]

The Increased Tariffs On Softwood Lumber, Upholstered Furniture Imports, And Imports Of Kitchen Cabinets And Vanities Worsened North Carolina’s Furniture Industry By Raising Prices Even Forcing A Business To Close

October 2025: Tariffs Increased On Softwood Lumber, Upholstered Furniture Imports, And Imports Of Kitchen Cabinets And Vanities

2025: Trump Implemented An Additional 10% Tariff On Softwood Lumber On Top Of The Original 25% Tariff. “Trump recently announced on social media that he is implementing an additional 10% tariff on softwood lumber on top of the 25% tariff from earlier this year. He also announced 25% tariffs on some upholstered furniture and on kitchen cabinets & vanities, which would increase to 30% and 50% respectively, in January.” [NC Voices, [10/14/25](#)]

Trump Levied A 25% Tariff On Upholstered Furniture Imports, Rising To 30% On Jan. 1. And A 25% Tariff, Rising To 50% On Jan. 1, For Imports Of Kitchen Cabinets And Vanities. President Trump is unleashing a new round of tariffs on furniture with the stated goal of reviving North Carolina's “furniture manufacturing industry. Why it matters: After the South lured factories and thousands of jobs from the North with the promise of cheap labor in the mid-20th century, North Carolina became a hotbed of furniture manufacturing. During this century, much of that work moved to lower-cost markets like China and Vietnam. Those in the industry say tariffs are unlikely to revive the industry that once underpinned much of North Carolina's economy. [...] Zoom in: The White House later provided more details, saying it would levy a 25% tariff on upholstered furniture imports, rising to 30% on Jan. 1, and a 25% tariff, rising to 50% on Jan. 1, for imports of kitchen cabinets and vanities. It also adds a 10% tariff on imports of softwood lumber. However, countries like the United Kingdom, ones in the European Union and Japan were given lower rates.” [Axios Raleigh, [10/1/25](#)]

Trump Levied A 25% Tariff, Rising To 50% On Jan. 1, For Imports Of Kitchen Cabinets And Vanities. President Trump is unleashing a new round of tariffs on furniture with the stated goal of reviving North Carolina's “furniture manufacturing industry. Why it matters: After the South lured factories and thousands of jobs from the

North with the promise of cheap labor in the mid-20th century, North Carolina became a hotbed of furniture manufacturing. During this century, much of that work moved to lower-cost markets like China and Vietnam. Those in the industry say tariffs are unlikely to revive the industry that once underpinned much of North Carolina's economy. [...] Zoom in: The White House later provided more details, saying it would levy a 25% tariff on upholstered furniture imports, rising to 30% on Jan. 1, and a 25% tariff, rising to 50% on Jan. 1, for imports of kitchen cabinets and vanities. It also adds a 10% tariff on imports of softwood lumber. However, countries like the United Kingdom, ones in the European Union and Japan were given lower rates.” [Axios Raleigh, [10/1/25](#)]

Furniture Industry Leaders Warned New Tariffs Would Not Help The Industry But Worsen It

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NC Voices: Trump’s Lumber Tariffs Lead To Price Increases And Potential Downsizing. “Trump’s social media post claimed that the reason for these surprise tariff increases was the North Carolina furniture industry. He said that they would somehow revive the shrinking industry, but didn’t offer an explanation of how raising the price of materials and imported pieces would accomplish this. [...] Furniture for America, a trade group led by the Home Furnishings Alliance in High Point, responded to the announcement in a detailed letter to the Trump administration. The letter explains the concerns of industry leaders that these tariffs would not only fail to strengthen the US furniture industry but actually damage it further. The 25% tariffs from earlier this year have already driven up lumber prices steeply, leading to price increases and potential downsizing. Industry leaders worry that the new additional tariffs will only make the problem worse, particularly for small factories that can’t shoulder the higher prices and may have to close. Furniture for America pointed to the shifts in global supply chains over the last 25 years, as well as how the advancement of technology and automation has reduced the number of workers needed. At the same time, they said the shift of workers away from manufacturing jobs has left a shortage of skilled workers as the number one issue for domestic manufacturers. The high unemployment that immediately followed the closing of many North Carolina furniture factories 10-15 years ago did not last.” [NC Voices, [10/14/25](#)]

Furniture For America: Tariffs On Lumber Would Not Only Fail To Strengthen The Furniture Industry But Worsen It. “Trump’s social media post claimed that the reason for these surprise tariff increases was the North Carolina furniture industry. He said that they would somehow revive the shrinking industry, but didn’t offer an explanation of how raising the price of materials and imported pieces would accomplish this. [...] Furniture for America, a trade group led by the Home Furnishings Alliance in High Point, responded to the announcement in a detailed letter to the Trump administration. The letter explains the concerns of industry leaders that these tariffs would not only fail to strengthen the US furniture industry but actually damage it further. The 25% tariffs from earlier this year have already driven up lumber prices steeply, leading to price increases and potential downsizing. Industry leaders worry that the new additional tariffs will only make the problem worse, particularly for small factories that can’t shoulder the higher prices and may have to close. Furniture for America pointed to the shifts in global supply chains over the last 25 years, as well as how the advancement of technology and automation has reduced the number of workers needed. At the same time, they said the shift of workers away from manufacturing jobs has left a shortage of skilled workers as the number one issue for domestic manufacturers. The high unemployment that immediately followed the closing of many North Carolina furniture factories 10-15 years ago did not last.” [NC Voices, [10/14/25](#)]

- **Furniture Of America Was A Furniture Provider And Source For U.S.-Made Upholstery.** “Furniture of America is your provider of life changing and home altering furniture. We believe that furniture carries with it the emotion of joy. It can breathe life into your home and reshape the way you interact in your domestic realm. We feel that your home should reflect who you are and how you want those closest to you to feel when they enter a room. It is a long journey from manufacturing, to retail, and finally to your home. [...] FOA started as a handful of people with a small warehouse and a commitment to delivering happiness. Today, that small warehouse has grown to five distribution centers. That handful of passionate workers is now hundreds of brothers and sisters. We now service customers around the globe, and are major players in the nation’s largest furniture trade-shows. FOA is a premier source for US-made upholstery, allowing us to maintain a competitive edge while supporting our country’s job market. We hold a portfolio of U.S. design and utility patents, with

several pending. Each aims to uphold our commitment to innovation, value, and most importantly, safety.”
[Furniture of America, About Us, accessed [4/28/26](#)]

- **NC Voices Headline: “North Carolina Furniture Manufacturers Warn Trump’s New Tariffs Will Hurt Their Industry, Not Revive It As He Claims.”** [NC Voices, [10/14/25](#)]
- **Axios Raleigh Headline: “Why Tariffs May Not Save Furniture Manufacturing In North Carolina.”**
[Axios Raleigh, [10/1/25](#)]

Home Goods Prices At High Point Market Increased By As Much As 42% Because Of Tariffs

Home Goods Prices At High Point Market Increased By As Much As 42% Because Of Tariffs. “Exploring showrooms and offerings at the High Point Market, I plopped down in a bean bag, amazed at how soft and luxurious it felt — a sharp contrast from the rocky ones of my elementary school days. Fibre by Auskin describes itself as a global company, sourcing alpaca fur from South America and wool from Tibetan lamb. The company says it has purchasing, manufacturing, design and sales teams in Australia, China and New Zealand. Like most wholesalers at the market, Fibre by Auskin is decidedly high-end. But even luxury goods like the bean bag are bearing the brunt of tariffs. Its manufacturer’s suggested retail price rose 37% this year, going from \$1,320 to \$1,814. [...] Other products by the same company saw even steeper markups — sales executive Erin Dowd said a pillow went from \$71 to \$101, a 42% increase. The company faced a 25% tariff on all inbound goods from China in 2018. Tariffs increased by an additional 30% in 2025, resulting in a total of 55%. ‘We managed to absorb as much of that as possible, but this year hit hard,’ Dowd said. ‘I would say there’s not a day that goes by that somebody calls and they ask for a price and say, ‘Oh, that’s gone up.’” [NC Newsline, [10/29/25](#)]

- **High Point Market Was The World’s Largest Wholesale Home Furnishings Trade Show.** “Known as the Home Furnishings Capital of the World™, High Point is where style comes to life. Discover more than 1,000 brands representing every aesthetic, from timeless classics to modern statement pieces. Whether you are furnishing an entire home or searching for that one perfect find, the selection here is unmatched. High Point is also home to High Point Market, the world’s largest wholesale home furnishings trade show, held each spring and fall and open exclusively to retailers and design professionals.” [Visit High Point, accessed [4/28/26](#)]
- **NC Newsline Headline: “Economy National State, Local Govt. New Furniture Tariffs Ripple Through North Carolina’s High Point Market.”** [NC Newsline, [10/29/25](#)]

Tariffs Influenced A North Carolina Homeware Company To Close And Fire Its Staff

Tariffs Influenced A North Carolina Homeware Company To Close And Fire Its Staff. “A North Carolina homeware company has been forced to shutter as President Donald Trump’s hefty import tariffs hit the furniture industry hard. Progressive Furniture, a division of Sauder Woodworking based in Claremont, North Carolina, announced its plans to close down and fire all 30 of its employees by the end of the year. The firm sells high-quality traditional and modern homeware at Walmart, Target and Home Depot. ‘This decision was not made lightly, and we understand the impact it will have on our employees, customers and partners,’ Progressive Furniture CEO Dan Kendrick told The Street. ‘We are committed to supporting our employees through this transition and will aid where possible to help them find new opportunities.’ While the CEO said that Trump’s seismic changes to the world economy did impact his decision to close the business, there were other factors involved.” [Daily Mail, [4/17/25](#)]

- **Daily Mail Headline: “Huge Homeware Brand Suddenly Closes And Fires All Its Staff As Trump’s Tariffs Come Into Effect.”** [Daily Mail, [4/17/25](#)]
- **CBC 17 Headline: “NC Home Builders, Lumber Suppliers Brace For Impact Of Tariffs On Canada, Mexico.”** [CBS 17, [3/5/25](#)]

- **ABC 11 Headline: “Concerns Grow Nationwide As Tariffs On Imported Lumber, Wood Products Take Effect.”** [ABC 11, [10/14/25](#)]

The Reckless Tariffs Were One The Largest Tax Increases In The Country’s History And Were Estimated To Cost Americans Thousands Of Dollars

2025: Tariffs Were One Of The Largest Tax Increases In The Country’s History

Center For Economic And Policy Research: Trump’s Tariffs Were The Largest Tax Increase In The Country’s History. “Donald Trump is putting in place the largest tax increase in the country’s history with his big import taxes (tariffs). We won’t know the full size of Trump’s taxes until after Liberation Day III (August 1), and probably not even then, but we already know that they are huge. This is evident from the tariff revenue the government is collecting. In June the government collected \$26.6 billion in tariff revenue. That is up from around \$6 billion a month in 2024 before Trump’s tax hikes. The difference of \$20 billion comes to \$240 billion on an annual basis. Summed over a decade, as we do with other measures, this comes to \$2.4 trillion. This would be a substantial tax hike in itself, roughly \$1,900 per household, but we know that the figure is almost certain to go much higher. Trump is threatening taxes of an additional 10 to 30 percent on imports from our major trading partners, such as Mexico, Canada, the European Union, and Japan. The tax take could easily end up being twice its current level, making Trump’s tariff frenzy by far the largest tax increase in US history.” [Center For Economic and Policy Research, [7/17/25](#)]

2026: Tariffs Were Estimated To Cost American Families Thousands Per Year

Tariffs Increased The Cost Of Living By More Than \$1,700 Per Family

Trump’s Tariffs Increased The Cost Of Living By More Than \$1,700 Per Family. “Following the Supreme Court’s decision today to overturn Trump’s tariffs, the Joint Economic Committee – Minority released an updated report estimating that American families have already paid more than \$1,700 each in tariff costs since President Trump took office. Combining Treasury Department data on the amount of tariff revenue collected across the first year of Trump’s term with independent estimates from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office of the percent of each tariff dollar that is paid by American consumers, the Committee found that they paid more than \$231 billion in total tariff costs between February 2025 and January 2026, an average of more than \$1,700 per family. ‘President Trump’s tariffs have been a disaster for American families, driving costs up at the worst possible time,’ said U.S. Senator Maggie Hassan, Ranking Member of the Joint Economic Committee. ‘While the Supreme Court has thankfully and correctly ruled that much of Trump’s tariff agenda was an illegal exercise of presidential power, today’s ruling cannot undo the damage that tariffs have already caused.’” [Joint Economic Committee, Press Release, [2/20/26](#)]

- **Joint Economic Committee Headline: “UPDATED DATA: American Families Have Already Paid More Than \$1,700 Each In Tariff Costs Since Trump Entered Office.”** [Joint Economic Committee, Press Release, [2/20/26](#)]

2026: The Joint Economic Committee Estimated That Tariffs Would Cost American Families More Than \$2,500 On Average

Joint Economic Committee Minority: “American Families Will Pay More Than \$2,500 Each In Tariff Costs In 2026.” “Even though the Supreme Court ruled that the bulk of President Trump’s tariff agenda was illegal, the administration moved immediately to enact new tariffs that Treasury Secretary Bessent claims will result in ‘virtually unchanged tariff revenue in 2026’. If Bessent’s estimates hold true, the Joint Economic Committee – Minority estimates that American families will pay more than \$2,500 each in tariff costs in 2026. Building on its previous tariff cost estimates, the Committee combined official data from the U.S. Treasury Department on the amount of tariff revenue collected since the start of 2025 with independent estimates from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office of the percent of each tariff dollar that is ultimately paid by American consumers. The

Committee found that if tariff revenue stays at the level recorded in January 2026 for the rest of the year, American families would in total pay more than \$330 billion in tariff costs in 2026, an average of more than \$2,500 per household in tariff costs this year. This is substantially higher than the more than \$1,700 in average tariff costs that the JEC – Minority previously estimated that families paid during the first year of Trump’s second term.” [Joint Economic Committee Minority, Fact Sheet, [March 2026](#)]

Joint Economic Committee Minority: With The Administration’s Projected Tariff Policy, “American Families Would In Total Pay More Than \$300 Billion In Tariff Costs In 2026.” “Even though the Supreme Court ruled that the bulk of President Trump’s tariff agenda was illegal, the administration moved immediately to enact new tariffs that Treasury Secretary Bessent claims will result in ‘virtually unchanged tariff revenue in 2026’. If Bessent’s estimates hold true, the Joint Economic Committee – Minority estimates that American families will pay more than \$2,500 each in tariff costs in 2026. Building on its previous tariff cost estimates, the Committee combined official data from the U.S. Treasury Department on the amount of tariff revenue collected since the start of 2025 with independent estimates from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office of the percent of each tariff dollar that is ultimately paid by American consumers. The Committee found that if tariff revenue stays at the level recorded in January 2026 for the rest of the year, American families would in total pay more than \$330 billion in tariff costs in 2026, an average of more than \$2,500 per household in tariff costs this year. This is substantially higher than the more than \$1,700 in average tariff costs that the JEC – Minority previously estimated that families paid during the first year of Trump’s second term.” [Joint Economic Committee Minority, Fact Sheet, [March 2026](#)]

Consumers Shouldered The Burden Of Tariffs As They Raised The Price Of Basic Goods Like Food And Clothing

Consumers Shouldered 55% Of The Tariff Burden As Compared To Businesses

The Hill Headline: “US Consumers Shouldering 55 Percent Of Trump Tariff Costs: Goldman Sachs.” [The Hill, [10/13/25](#)]

Fox News Headline: “US Businesses And Consumers Shoulder The Bulk Of Tariff Cost Burden, Goldman Sachs Finds.” [Fox News, [10/21/25](#)]

Goldman Sachs Found U.S. Consumers Would Be Absorbing 55% Of Tariff Costs By The End Of 2025. “Goldman’s economists assessed that by the end of 2025, U.S. consumers will be absorbing 55% of tariff costs, while 22% will fall on U.S. businesses, 18% on foreign exporters and 5% on potential tariff evasion. ‘Our 22% estimate for U.S. businesses is modest because it is a net impact – companies that use or sell imported goods will bear a larger share of tariff costs, while domestic producers that are shielded from foreign competition by tariffs will be able to raise their own prices and increase their margins,’ the economists wrote.” [Fox Business, [10/21/25](#)]

Goldman Sachs Found 22% Of Tariff Costs Would Fall On U.S. Businesses By The End Of 2025. “Goldman’s economists assessed that by the end of 2025, U.S. consumers will be absorbing 55% of tariff costs, while 22% will fall on U.S. businesses, 18% on foreign exporters and 5% on potential tariff evasion. ‘Our 22% estimate for U.S. businesses is modest because it is a net impact – companies that use or sell imported goods will bear a larger share of tariff costs, while domestic producers that are shielded from foreign competition by tariffs will be able to raise their own prices and increase their margins,’ the economists wrote.” [Fox Business, [10/21/25](#)]

Tariffs Raised Prices On Cars

Kelley Blue Book: “President Trump Has Announced A 25% Tariff On All Cars Built Outside The United States And On Many Parts Used In Cars Built Here. [...] Shoppers Can Expect The Tariffs To Increase Car Prices By As Much As \$6,000 On Vehicles Priced Under \$40,000.” “President Trump has announced a 25% tariff on all cars built outside the United States and on many parts used in cars built here. See our latest news updates below on where tariffs stand. Effective Dates: Imported Cars: Tariffs began on April 3. Car Parts: Tariffs began on May 3. These tariffs have started to increase car prices. To save money, consider locking in a new car deal before any potential price increases take effect. Can You Avoid a Car Tariff? No vehicle made at an

assembly plant in the United States is 100% made here. Even Tesla sources its parts from other countries. This means that with tariffs, car prices will increase for American car buyers, though the timing remains unclear. You can potentially avoid paying a tariff on a new car by purchasing one that was imported to the U.S. before the tariffs took effect, or by buying a used car. **How Will Tariffs Affect Car Buying?** If new cars become too expensive, used cars will become more attractive. However, if demand spikes, used car prices may also increase. Here's more information: New cars: Shoppers can expect the tariffs to increase car prices by as much as \$6,000 on vehicles priced under \$40,000. Higher car prices mean higher car taxes, financing, car insurance, and other ownership costs. This price pressure will make cars less affordable for consumers." [Kelley Blue Book, [9/15/25](#)]

Tariffs Raised Prices On Groceries

Tariffs Contributed To Prices Rising For Groceries. "President Donald Trump pledged to bring down grocery costs. But his administration's policies are contributing to an acceleration in prices, food economists and companies say. Grocery prices last month rose at their fastest pace in three years, stoked by Trump's tariffs, a crackdown on immigration, and extreme weather hurting food production. Prices jumped 0.6% in August from the month prior, according to the latest reading from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and they are up 2.7% from a year ago. Food prices are deeply personal to consumers, and weekly grocery bills shape their overall perceptions of the economy. More than half of Americans count grocery costs as a major stress in their lives. Low-income and middle-income Americans, hit the hardest by rising grocery costs, are changing where they shop and what they buy. Companies are also taking extreme measures to appeal to shoppers strained by higher prices, such as bringing back paper coupons." [CNN, [9/20/25](#)]

- **Axios Headline: "Grocery Inflation Highest Since 2022 As Trump Tariffs Pile Up."** [Axios, [9/11/25](#)]
- **News ABC 12 Headline: "Trump's Tariffs Could Lead To Higher Grocery Bills As NC Farmers Face Export Challenges."** [News ABC 12, [4/2/25](#)]

Tariffs Raised Prices On Apparel Goods

Tariffs Raised Prices On Apparel Goods. "The impact of President Donald Trump's tariffs on prices throughout the economy is expected to increase over the summer. At U.S. department store chains including Macy's, Nordstrom, and Dillard's, the evidence of sticker price inflation is starting to show up across more items. Recent price increases in apparel, footwear, and bags across major U.S. department-store websites tracked by DataWeave indicate a turning point in May, when prices started their ascent. DataWeave analyzes nearly 15,000 SKUs (stock keeping units), a scannable code retailers use to identify and track a product, and has been collecting that data from January to June for signs of price hikes in footwear, apparel, and bags. 'Footwear is now as much as 4% above January levels at some banners, while apparel is roughly half that pace,' said Karthik Bettadapura, co-founder & CEO of DataWeave." [CNBC, [7/2/25](#)]

- **CNBC Headline: "Inside America's Department Stores, Tariff-Triggered Price Hikes Are Picking Up."** [CNBC, [7/2/25](#)]
- **The Guardian Headline: "Clothing Prices Rising In US As Trump Tariffs Kick In, H&M Boss Says."** [The Guardian, [6/26/25](#)]

Buckhout's General Policy Statements Included Weakening The ACA, Praising The Economy, Even On Gas Prices, And Calling For Mass Deportations

Buckhout Ran Her Campaign On A Suite Of Standard Conservative Positions, Including Calls To Weaken The ACA, And Cheerlead For Trump's Economy

Buckhout Said Trump Wanted To Repeal Obamacare's "Worst Provisions"

VIDEO: Buckhout: “So Trump Definitely Wants To Repeal Obamacare’s Worst Provisions And Lower Drug Processes And Lower Drug Prices.” “You know, so I'll tell you. So I'm kind of battle tested on this one. I have navigated both military and private health care systems. I've had to navigate the VA military health care system. I've suffered at the hands of the VA and I've had to recover from other health care. So we need to have accessible, affordable care without government takeover. One of the most important things that you can do as a member when you're up in Congress is be trusted by other members so you can form a caucus and start to come up with some good ideas of how to lower health care costs. I've had many calls from across the district, from doctors, from constituents, from hospital managers who are already reaching out to trust me, to have a meeting to figure out how to do this. An insurance provider reached out to me last week and said, Let's have a meeting, Laurie, you. Because I think they trust me to carry the message for hospital owners, business owners. Because hospitals are businesses, we can't just forget about them. Constituents who have rising health care costs and etc.. So Trump definitely wants to repeal Obamacare worsts provisions and lower drug processes and lower drug prices. So we need to be starting to fight for market based solutions. But at the same time, we need to make sure that the individuals have got a safety net to fall back on in terms of their insurance. That is reasonable and that's something that they can afford to pay without mortgages. Something else. Health care decisions belong to patients and doctors, not government bureaucrats. We need to help them out. But the solutions belong to the patients and the doctors themselves. Lower costs through competition to competition and transparency, protecting people with preexisting conditions, ensuring quality care without socialist takeover. Let the free market work.” [NC Federation of Republican Women Forum, 0:00, [1/30/26](#)] (VIDEO)

Buckhout Said “Hospitals Are Businesses”

VIDEO: Buckhout: “Hospitals Are Businesses, We Can’t Just Forget About Them.” “You know, so I'll tell you. So I'm kind of battle tested on this one. I have navigated both military and private health care systems. I've had to navigate the VA military health care system. I've suffered at the hands of the VA and I've had to recover from other health care. So we need to have accessible, affordable care without government takeover. One of the most important things that you can do as a member when you're up in Congress is be trusted by other members so you can form a caucus and start to come up with some good ideas of how to lower health care costs. I've had many calls from across the district, from doctors, from constituents, from hospital managers who are already reaching out to trust me, to have a meeting to figure out how to do this. An insurance provider reached out to me last week and said, Let's have a meeting, Laurie, you. Because I think they trust me to carry the message for hospital owners, business owners. Because hospitals are businesses, we can't just forget about them. Constituents who have rising health care costs and etc.. So Trump definitely wants to repeal Obamacare worsts provisions and lower drug processes and lower drug prices. So we need to be starting to fight for market based solutions. But at the same time, we need to make sure that the individuals have got a safety net to fall back on in terms of their insurance. That is reasonable and that's something that they can afford to pay without mortgages. Something else. Health care decisions belong to patients and doctors, not government bureaucrats. We need to help them out. But the solutions belong to the patients and the doctors themselves. Lower costs through competition to competition and transparency, protecting people with preexisting conditions, ensuring quality care without socialist takeover. Let the free market work.” [NC Federation of Republican Women Forum, 0:00, [1/30/26](#)] (VIDEO)

Buckhout Praised Trump’s Economic Record, Even On Gas Prices

VIDEO: Buckhout: “We’re Going To, You Know, Support Rebuilding The Economy That President Trump Has Already Started To Do.” BUCKHOUT: “I think being a lifelong Army veteran makes a difference. Being a combat veteran makes a difference. I'm definitely combat tested. Led folks into combat, came back, didn't back down. I mean, I'm pretty fearless. So that's a big deal. I think the second thing and this is important. I've been trusted by President Trump, so he has brought me up to serve inside his administration as acting assistant secretary of war for cyber policy under Secretary Hegseth. And I was told I was one of the quickest vetting to bring folks in ever. I'm trusted by the president. He knows I'm going to stand up for the America first agenda. You know, we're going to enforce our laws without apology. We're going to enforce our borders. We're going to support ICE and Border Patrol, and we're going to, you know, support rebuilding the economy that President Trump has already started to do.” [Viewpoints, 0:00, [2/25/26](#)] (VIDEO)

VIDEO: Buckhout Said Venezuela Would Help With Lowering Gas Prices, But Also Domestic Energy And Oil. “You know, the vision. My vision really focuses on two things: the economy and security. And the first one, economy means a couple of things. Number one, it means lowering taxes across the board. It means lowering gas prices, continuing to push domestic energy, domestic oil. Venezuela is going to help with that. You know, lowering prices at the pump, lowering prices at the grocery store and lowering taxes so that North Carolinians have more money in their pocket at the end of the month instead of paying it out.” [Laurie Buckhout Virtual Meet and Greet, 3:10, [1/28/26](#)] (VIDEO)

Buckhout Pledged To Help Trump Conduct Mass Deportations

VIDEO: Buckhout: “We’re Going To Enforce Our Laws Without Apology. We’re Going To Enforce Our Borders. We’re Going To Support ICE And Border Patrol.” BUCKHOUT: “I think being a lifelong Army veteran makes a difference. Being a combat veteran makes a difference. I'm definitely combat tested. Led folks into combat, came back, didn't back down. I mean, I'm pretty fearless. So that's a big deal. I think the second thing and this is important. I've been trusted by President Trump, so he has brought me up to serve inside his administration as acting assistant secretary of war for cyber policy under Secretary Hegseth. And I was told I was one of the quickest vetting to bring folks in ever. I'm trusted by the president. He knows I'm going to stand up for the America first agenda. You know, we're going to enforce our laws without apology. We're going to enforce our borders. We're going to support ICE and Border Patrol, and we're going to, you know, support rebuilding the economy that President Trump has already started to do.” [Viewpoints, 0:00, [2/25/26](#)] (VIDEO)

VIDEO: Buckhout Looked Forward To Helping Trump “Get Rid Of All Of These Illegal Aliens, Criminal Illegal Aliens That Are Not Just Causing Crime, Drugs And Unrest, But Are Also Taking Money Out Of Our Pockets.” “The second big one is I talked about security, safety. Getting rid of criminal illegals. And that's going to have a big part on the first part as well, because you got these guys zapping our tax dollars with everything that they're taking. They need to go, America first, Americans first, Eastern, North Carolinians first. So helping Trump clean out, of course, he's got the border secured, keep the border secured, get rid of all of these illegal aliens, criminal illegal aliens that are not just causing crime, drugs and unrest, but are also taking money out of our pockets. I think those two areas divided up are probably the most critical things to eastern North Carolina right now. I mean, I'm the fighter to do it. I love this. I've got a vision and I'm very tied in with President Trump. It's very much an America first agenda. And it's not hard. It's not just a tagline. I mean, everything is it makes common sense, right? Jobs, lower taxes, stop the people who are taking tax dollars away from us, but not putting anything in with all these criminal illegals. Close the border. America first. America first. Eastern North Carolina first.” [Laurie Buckhout Virtual Meet and Greet, 3:10, [1/28/26](#)] (VIDEO)