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**From:** Robert Howard  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 26, 2018 11:14 AM  
**To:** Letitia.Stein@thomsonreuters.com  
**Cc:** Morgan Jackson  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters inquiry  
**Attachments:** BTM Target Memo Branded.pdf

Hi Letitia –

Good chatting just now. Attached is targets memo I mentioned on the phone. I'm also cc'ing Morgan Jackson, Break the Majority's chief strategist, who can walk you through a bit how things look down here. Morgan recently gave a press briefing on the state of things, so he can walk you through that as well.

And don't hesitate to shout if I can help out any further.

Thanks,  
Robert

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Robert Howard  
832-457-7107  
[@RobertWHoward](mailto:RobertWHoward)

**From:** Letitia.Stein@thomsonreuters.com <Letitia.Stein@thomsonreuters.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 25, 2018 6:39 PM  
**To:** Robert Howard <RobertHoward@ncdemocraticparty.org>  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters inquiry

Yes, that sounds good. I have a meeting from 11-12:30 but am otherwise around. Look forward to speaking!

**From:** Robert Howard [<mailto:RobertHoward@ncdemocraticparty.org>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 25, 2018 5:59 PM  
**To:** Stein, Letitia (Reuters)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters inquiry

Great, let's chat in the morning. I have a 10am but could call you after that?

**From:** [Letitia.Stein@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:Letitia.Stein@thomsonreuters.com) <[Letitia.Stein@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:Letitia.Stein@thomsonreuters.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 25, 2018 5:16 PM  
**To:** Robert Howard <[RobertHoward@ncdemocraticparty.org](mailto:RobertHoward@ncdemocraticparty.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters inquiry

**Exhibit 9**

M. Jackson  
5/15/19

*Reporter: Eileen Dunne*

Thanks! I'm free now until about 6, or could talk in the morning. My cell is 813-310-0904. I can explain my focus in greater detail, but I'm looking specifically at the key states that Democrats are trying to win back ahead of redistricting, and how the presidential results may inform legislative contests.

**From:** Robert Howard [mailto:[RobertHoward@ncdemocraticparty.org](mailto:RobertHoward@ncdemocraticparty.org)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 25, 2018 5:02 PM  
**To:** Stein, Letitia (Reuters)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters inquiry

Hi Letitia –

Good to hear from you. Happy to chat about all things North Carolina. When's good for you? And is your piece focused on anything in particular or just the state of play for statehouse elections around the country?

Thanks!  
Robert

**From:** [Letitia.Stein@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:Letitia.Stein@thomsonreuters.com) <[Letitia.Stein@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:Letitia.Stein@thomsonreuters.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 25, 2018 1:47 PM  
**To:** Robert Howard <[RobertHoward@ncdemocraticparty.org](mailto:RobertHoward@ncdemocraticparty.org)>  
**Subject:** Reuters inquiry

Hi,  
I hope you'll remember me, as I know we've chatted in the past. I'm a reporter with Reuters. I am working on a story about statehouse elections and wanted to reach out regarding the state of play in North Carolina. Do you have a minute, or could you steer me to the right contacts with the House and Senate caucuses?

Thanks,  
Letitia

**Letitia Stein**  
Thomson Reuters  
Correspondent  
U.S. General News

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[letitia.stein@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:letitia.stein@thomsonreuters.com)  
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TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Robert Howard, North Carolina Democratic Party Communications Director

DATE: April 11, 2018

## Break the Majority Targets Vulnerable State Republicans

Break the Majority, the unprecedented partnership between the North Carolina Democratic Party and Governor Roy Cooper, launched on offense with a singular focus: to break the Republican supermajority. Democrats need to win four seats in the House and six seats in the Senate to achieve this goal.

Republicans are facing a daunting political reality: their attempts to rig the system to stay in power, coupled with a historically unpopular President, have left them on the wrong side of their constituents. Republicans are opening the midterm election cycle on the defensive, facing internal pressure as their base grows frustrated with their inability to deliver on campaign promises and external pressure from a unified and energetic Democratic grassroots.

The NCDP will continue to harness this organic energy through year-round organizing principles and digital targeting. Sophisticated grassroots engagement, digital fundraising, aggressive earned and paid-media accountability, and 170 passionate candidates who fit their districts will create an expanded, statewide battlefield, one in which Democrats are poised to make significant gains in 2018.

### Republicans on Defense

#### Far-Right Agenda Drags Down NC Republicans

- Since taking power in 2011, Republicans have pushed an extreme agenda: legalizing discrimination through HB2, suppressing voting rights, loosening gun laws, robbing public schools to give private school vouchers, and underfunding K-12, community colleges and universities to give more than \$4 billion in tax giveaways to corporations and millionaires.
- This extreme agenda, pushed through by far-right legislators, many of whom have never had a competitive challenger, will have political repercussions.

#### History Isn't on Their Side

- The party in control of the White House has **lost seats in state legislatures in 27 of the last 29 midterm elections**; on average, the president's political party has **lost 280 legislative seats during the midterms** of his first term.
- In all midterms in modern history, the sitting president has needed a net-positive job approval in the double-digits to stave off losses.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR, ROBERT HOWARD | RHOWARD@NCDP.ORG

## NCDEMOCRATS

- According to recent polling, **40 percent of North Carolina voters approve** of President Trump and **50 percent disapprove**; nationally, only 41 percent approve and 54 percent disapprove.

### NC Republicans Tied Themselves to National Republicans, Whose Empty Promises Discourage Base and Unify Democrats and Independents

- NC Republicans have tied themselves to national Republicans on health care and taxes, two of the biggest issues heading into 2018, while GOP priorities on both remain deeply unpopular and will have repercussions at the ballot box.
- GOP efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act unified Democrats and Independents and continues to be voters #1 issue. Those who cast their votes on health care are sharply breaking left.
- The national Republican tax scam mirrored the NC GOP's 2013 tax overhaul, slashing taxes on corporations and the wealthy to shift it onto the lower and middle class, but has proved so unpopular with voters, Republicans have abandoned it as an issue.

## Democrats on Offense

### Cooper's Unifying Leadership Sets Positive, Statewide Agenda

- Gov. Roy Cooper is setting the party's positive message on the issues that matter most to North Carolina families, including pocketbook issues, support for public education, opioid addiction treatment, and environmental concerns such as GenX.
- Strong, quality Democratic candidates who fit their communities will focus on local issues, such as I-77 tolls in Mecklenburg, GenX in Wilmington, and the plastic bag ban in Dare.

### 170 Candidates Will Force Every Republican to Play Defense

- NCDP made history by recruiting, for the first time ever, 170 legislative candidates. Republicans who have never had a challenger or are in previously safe seats will have to campaign and spend money in their districts, giving less time and resources to their caucus and vulnerable members.

### New Legislative Maps Will Shift Battleground

- Supreme Court-mandated new maps made once-safe districts competitive and competitive districts into true toss-ups, expanding the battlefield and giving Democrats new and better opportunities to pick up seats.

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## Energy and Excitement in the Democratic Grassroots

- North Carolinians are frustrated with Republicans in Raleigh and Washington, D.C., and are showing up in record numbers to make their voices heard.
  - 16,187 people attended precinct meetings for local Democratic parties in 2017 – a **45 percent increase over last year's turnout** of 11,202 in a presidential election year:
    - Wilkes County: 93 people attended precinct meetings vs. 42 in 2015
    - Buncombe County: 927 people vs. 427 in 2015
    - Wake County: 3,068 people vs. 1,445 in 2015

## Unprecedented Fundraising

- The NCDP has **more than \$2.4 million cash-on-hand** to support Democratic candidates, the party's most successful first campaign finance reporting period to start a cycle in history.

## Nationwide, 2017 State and Special Elections Signal Shift Leftward

- Since Nov. 2016, Democrats have **flipped 39 legislative seats** and are on average overperforming their 2016 margin by 12 percent.
  - Democrats need just four seats in the House and six seats in the Senate to break the Republican supermajorities.
  - With new maps, more funding and an increasingly favorable political environment Democrats are well positioned to break the supermajorities in 2018 and battle for majorities in 2020.

## Break the Majority Initial Targets

Through Break the Majority, the NCDP and Gov. Cooper will bring the innovative strategies and battle-tested tactics that helped Gov. Cooper be the only Democrat to defeat a sitting Republican governor in 2016. Break the Majority initially will focus on key vulnerable Senate and House members:

### Senate

- |                         |                            |                         |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| • SD 1 – <i>open</i>    | • SD 13 – Danny Britt      | • SD 31 – Joyce Krawiec |
| • SD 6 – Harry Brown    | • SD 17 – Tamara Barringer | • SD 35 – <i>open</i>   |
| • SD 7 – Louis Pate     | • SD 18 – John Alexander   | • SD 36 – Paul Newton   |
| • SD 8 – Bill Rabon     | • SD 19 – Wesley Meredith  | • SD 39 – Dan Bishop    |
| • SD 9 – Michael Lee    | • SD 24 – Rick Gunn        | • SD 41 – Jeff Tarte    |
| • SD 10 – Brent Jackson | • SD 25 – Tom McInnis      | • SD 48 – Chuck Edwards |
| • SD 11 – Rick Horner   | • SD 26 – Phil Berger      | • SD 50 – Jim Davis     |
| • SD 12 – Ronald Rabin  | • SD 27 – Trudy Wade       |                         |

# NCDEMOCRATS

## House

- HD 1 – *open*
- HD 2 – Larry Yarborough
- HD 3 – Michael Speciale
- HD 4 – Jimmy Dixon
- HD 6 – Beverly Boswell
- HD 8 – *open*
- HD 19 – Ted Davis
- HD 20 – Holly Grange
- HD 22 – Bill Brisson
- HD 25 – *open*
- HD 26 – Donna White
- HD 28 – Larry Strickland
- HD 35 – Chris Malone
- HD 36 – Nelson Dollar
- HD 37 – *open*
- HD 45 – John Szoka
- HD 46 – Brenden Jones
- HD 51 – John Sauls
- HD 53 – David Lewis
- HD 59 – John Hardister
- HD 62 – John Faircloth
- HD 63 – Stephen Ross
- HD 64 – Dennis Riddell
- HD 65 – Bert Jones
- HD 74 – Debra Conrad
- HD 75 – Donny Lambeth
- HD 82 – Larry Pittman
- HD 83 – Linda Johnson
- HD 93 – Jonathan Jordan
- HD 98 – John Bradford
- HD 103 – Bill Brawley
- HD 104 – Andy Dulin
- HD 105 – Scott Stone
- HD 113 – Cody Henson
- HD 118 – Michele Presnell
- HD 119 – Mike Clampitt

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FOR MORE ON THE NC DEMOCRATIC PARTY VISIT [WWW.NCDP.ORG](http://WWW.NCDP.ORG). NOT AUTHORIZED BY ANY CANDIDATE OR CANDIDATE'S COMMITTEE.