

EQUITY WATCH

Policy, research, resources, and news related to minority and women's issues curated biweekly by the
Research, Policy & Impact Center **Mar 24, 2023**

HOUSING

A new bill aims to help North Carolina Workers afford housing : The North Carolina Senate introduced a creative solution to address critical workforce shortages for North Carolinians through Senate Bill 317. This bill would provide affordable housing for teachers, first responders, nurses and first time buyers. [-The Dispatch](#)

Durham City Council rejects huge housing development proposal in Falls Lake Watershed: The Kemp Road project which was a project of 655 single family houses and townhomes on 280 acres of land was voted down by Durham City Council members. [-NC Policy Watch](#)

President Biden's budget lowers Housing Costs and Expands Access to Affordable Rent and Home Ownership : President's Biden Budget includes a historic investment to lower housing costs, expand housing supply, improve access to affordable rental options and homeownership, and advance efforts to end homelessness [-The White House](#)

San Diego's new housing policies aim to boost racial integration, reverse lingering effects of redlining: San Diego officials are looking to solve the city's housing crisis and racial segregation by creating housing policies that encourage more housing for low income residents in wealthier and mostly white neighborhoods- [The San Diego Union Tribune](#)

Governor Hochul announces start of construction on \$24 million affordable housing development in Seneca Falls: Governor Kathy Hochul announces the construction of Huntington Apartments. The development will feature 53 affordable apartments in an energy efficient building, including 27 with supportive services for veterans in need of housing . [-New York State](#)

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HEALTH

North Carolina Medicaid expansion agreement clears Senate: Senators in North Carolina have voted 44-2 to expand Medicaid Coverage to more low income adults while losing several regulatory hurdles- [WFAE](#)

North Carolina House advances ban on COVID vaccine mandates: North Carolina's public schools, colleges and universities would be prohibited from requiring a student to prove that they have been vaccinated against COVID-19. - [AP News](#)

North Carolina Democratic State Lawmakers file RBG act, which aims to remove restrictions on abortion access: North Carolina Democratic Party State Lawmakers filed a new bill that aims to remove restrictions on abortion access in the state . - [WXII](#)

NCDHHS Delays Implementation of the NC Medicaid Managed Care Behavioral Health and I/DD Tailored Plans: To ensure nearly 150,000 people seamlessly receive care on day one, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services will delay the implementation of the NC Medicaid Managed Care Behavioral Health and Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Tailored Plans . - [NCDHHS](#)

Medicaid expansion a 'game changer' for rural health care in N.C: A new deal to expand Medicaid coverage to another estimated 600,000 people, announced last week by leaders in the General Assembly, will help keep clinics open and get more health care resources to people in rural communities.. - [Spectrum News](#)

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SMALL BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

North Carolina Textile Manufacturer to invest \$24 million in Winston Salem Expansion:

Tex-Tech Industries, a leading manufacturer of specialty textiles, will create 49 new jobs in Forsyth County. The company will invest more than \$24.8 million to build a new manufacturing center in Winston-Salem. - [NC Governor Roy Cooper](#)

Economic developer: Get ready, Mocksville poised for growth in next five years: The Mocksville Town Board held its first budget retreat, with 154 action items assigned to town departments and 56 percent complete, these tasks are anticipated to be completed by the end of the year - [Davie County Enterprise Record](#)

Governor Cooper Announces 500 New Jobs as Siemens Mobility Selects Davidson County for Major East Coast Manufacturing Center: Siemens Mobility, Inc., the global manufacturer of rail transportation vehicles and control systems, will build a major advanced manufacturing and rail services center in Davidson County, creating 506 jobs, . - [NC Governor Roy Cooper](#)

Packaging Manufacturer to Build New Facility in Archdale with \$32 Million Investment:

Axiom Packaging, a manufacturer of packaging and containers, will create 118 jobs in Randolph County over the next three years. The company will invest \$32 million to build a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in the City of Archdale.. - [NC Governor Roy Cooper](#)

Richland County locks in local incentives for Scout plant that plans to bring 4,000 jobs :

Richland County Council on Tuesday night locked in tax breaks for a company that plans to build a \$2 billion electric vehicle plant in Blythewood, putting one of the final puzzle pieces in place in terms of local and state incentives used to recruit the project that plans to bring in 4,000 jobs . - [The State](#)

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EDUCATION

North Carolina House passes bill limiting racial teachings: The NC House voted 68-49 along party lines for legislation banning public school teachers from compelling students to believe they should feel guilty or responsible for past actions committed by people of the same race or sex. - [AP News](#)

Latino education leadership program expands its impact in North Carolina: LatinxED, an education nonprofit that serves the Latino community, opened applications this week for its third fellowship cycle. The new cohort of education leaders is expected to grow from 15 to about 70 people, following a \$500,000 award from NewSchools Venture Fund.. - [WFAE](#)

Report shows literacy instruction deficiencies in UNC System teacher prep programs: North Carolina fourth graders are testing proficient in reading at the lowest level since 2009, and the University of North Carolina Board of Governors is concerned that its schools aren't equipping future K-12 teachers to reverse that trend. - [Smoky Mountain News](#)

North Carolina education pushes pilot program to boost teacher retention: The North Carolina State Board of Education wants legislators to allow for a multiyear pilot teacher licensure program that would pay instructors based on performance rather than years of experience. - [Fox News](#)

NC Supreme Court Blocks Transfer of Leandro Money in Partisan Vote: The NC Supreme Court's Republican majority voted 5-2 to reinstate a lower court's order blocking a ruling in November which ordered the state to spend millions of dollars to implement the ruling in November in wh - [Indy Week](#)