



YOUTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY 2012 FINAL REPORT



N.C. Department of Administration
Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office



42nd
N.C. Youth Legislative Assembly
Final Report

Sponsored by
State Youth Council
Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office

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N.C. Youth Legislative Assembly

Mission Statement

Adopted October 11, 2011, for YLA 2012

The N.C. Youth Legislative Assembly (YLA) provides an immersive opportunity to engage and enlighten students in the innovating legislative process leading to more knowledgeable, dynamic and vocal citizenry of both the state and the nation. The primary objective of the YLA is to represent the voice of the North Carolina youth through presenting mock legislation to elected officials.

YLA is.....

The N.C. Youth Legislative Assembly (YLA) is a mock general assembly which allows high school students to develop a better understanding and knowledge of local, state and national government as well as the confidence and ability to debate current issues. Any student in good standing at a public, private, charter or home school in North Carolina is eligible to participate in YLA.

YLA has given students an opportunity to learn about the legislative process for 42 years. YLA has a strong history of providing young men and women with the foundation they need to expand their education. Students become involved in community service; appreciate diversity; communicate their ideas to others; draft, discuss and shepherd legislation through the legislative process; learn effective civic participation skills; and make a difference in civic life.

Introduction

The 42nd annual Youth Legislative Assembly (YLA) was held March 23-25, 2012, at the Clarion Hotel, Raleigh. The general session was held at the Legislative Office Building, Raleigh. YLA was sponsored by the State Youth Council of the Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office, N.C. Department of Administration.

Two hundred and twenty-four high school students from across North Carolina participated in the three-day session. These students voiced their opinions regarding rights and responsibilities of youth and adults ranging from the local government level to matters of statewide importance.

The delegation of youth represented the following 36 counties:

Bertie	Columbus	Gaston	Lee	Nash	Wake
Bladen	Cumberland	Guilford	Lincoln	Orange	Warren
Buncombe	Davidson	Halifax	Martin	Person	Washington
Catawba	Durham	Hertford	Mecklenburg	Pitt	Wayne
Chatham	Edgecombe	Hoke	Montgomery	Sampson	Wilkes
Cleveland	Forsyth	Johnston	Moore	Stanly	Wilson

This year, 62 percent of the youth were female and 38 percent were male. Six percent were 14 years old, 24 percent were 15 years old, 31 percent were 16 years old, 31 percent were 17 years old, and 8 percent were 18 years old. Forty-seven percent of the participants were Caucasian, 36 percent were African American, 4 percent were American Indian, 2 percent were Asian, 6 percent were Hispanic, and 5 percent were Other.

Each youth participated in one of 10 committees patterned after the N.C. General Assembly. During committee meetings, consultants spoke to the members on their respective issues. As a group, the committee members were responsible for amending the bills and reporting them favorably or unfavorably to the full assembly.

	Committees:	
Children and Family	Environment	Science and Technology
Civil Rights	Health Affairs	Substance Abuse
Education	Human Sexuality	Youth Affairs
	Judiciary	

The committee chairs were youth elected from across the state. Each was responsible for drafting legislation and obtaining resource people for his/her particular area of study.

Moses Carey, Jr., Secretary, N.C. Department of Administration, addressed the opening session. Judge Vince Rozier swore in the 2012 co-speakers and chairs. The keynote speaker for the conference was The Honorable Rosa Gill, N.C. House of Representatives.

2012 Co-Speakers



Angelica Mack

Angelica Mack of Winston-Salem is the daughter of Preston and Beleita Mack. She began her YLA experience four years ago, moving from delegate to Co-Chair, and now Co-Speaker. She is a senior at Salem Academy. As head of several extracurricular activities and school clubs, Angelica has accumulated more than 1,000 hours of participation, community service and volunteer work over the past four years. Angelica continues to intern and volunteer with The Maya Angelou Center for Health Equity, the N.C. Black Repertory Company, the American Red Cross, Legal Aid of North Carolina and Catholic Social Services. She participates in Salem Academy's yearbook organization, is a member of its elite a cappella musical ensemble and is a representative of the Honor Cabinet. A three-year member of the National Spanish Honor Society and the Society of High School Scholars, Angelica plans to

continue to excel as an incoming undergraduate at either Oberlin College or Cornell University to study chemistry and music with a minor in Spanish. She plans to continue her education in graduate school at the University of Chicago to pursue a career in Pediatrics. Angelica travelled to Beijing, China, as a Salem Academy ambassador in 2011 and hopes to continue to travel the world as a musician and pediatrician in the future.



Joshua Llodrat

Joshua Llodrat of High Point is the son of Marilyn Velez and German Llodrat, Jr. He was born in Patchogue, N.Y. Josh is a senior at Ledford High School where he is a member of the Debate Club and the National Beta Club. He is the student founder and President of the school's Students Against Destructive Decisions Chapter. Josh has been a member of the High Point Youth Council for four years and has served as its presiding Chair for the past two years. He has also been a member of the State Youth Council for three years, serving as the SYC Secretary last year and the current SYC Chair. He is a member of the Governor's Youth Advisory Council and the N.C. Teen Democrats, where he is the LGBT Liaison/Defeat Amendment 1 Coordinator. This past summer Josh was chosen to intern in Legislator Vivian Vilorio-Fishers Office, the Deputy Presiding Officer in Suffolk County, N.Y. Also this past summer,

Josh represented North Carolina as a delegate to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. Josh began his YLA experience as a delegate three years ago. In his spare time, Josh enjoys baking, cooking and participating in volunteer activities. He is passionate about public speaking. Next fall, Josh will attend American University in Washington, D.C., with an intended double major of Political Science and Pre-Law. He hopes to build up his political career to one day be elected the U.S. Senator for the State of New York and become a crusader for education and youth advocacy.

2012 YLA Leadership Planning Committee

Session Clerks

TeiaShonna Autry
White Oak

Kierra Bailey
Garner

Committee Chairs

Children and Family

Samantha Freeman
Wilkesboro
Davon Moore
Grimesland

Civil Rights

Sydney Southerland
Knightdale
Hannah Nayowith
Pittsboro

Education

Zachariah Grant
Kings Mountain

Environment

Galen Pischke
Raleigh
Jordan Capps
Roxboro

Health Affairs

Xander Graves
High Point
Stefanee Powell
Durham

Human Sexuality

Nicole Long
Roxboro
Devonte Wilson
West End

Judiciary

Ryan Burke
Greensboro
Jeanna Williams
Garner

Science and Technology

Ilana Green
Garner
Glen Hutchins
Roxboro

Substance Abuse

Velencia Giles
Garner
Lyndsey Jones
Rocky Mount

Youth Affairs

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Youth Affairs

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NC SADD State Coordinator
1319 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1319

AWARDS

The **Gibbs Award**, named for Jimmy Gibbs, a 1980 YLA tri-speaker, is given each year to the delegate from each committee who added the most to the discussion by asking questions, helping to rewrite bills and being creative and inspiring. The 2012 Gibbs Award recipients are:

Children and Family	Khadijah Curry, Fayetteville
Civil Rights	Brandon Paul, Lexington
Education	Kimberly Duarte, Bladenboro
Environment	Harrison Jones, Roxboro
Health Affairs	Christopher "Clay" Ayers, Denton
Human Sexuality	Jessica Locklear, Red Springs
Judiciary	Rebecca Brady, Fayetteville
Science and Technology	Nasr Mohamed, Clinton
Substance Abuse	Laurence Daw, Pittsboro
Youth Affairs	Morgan Roberson, Rougemont

The **Richard White Leadership Award**, named after 1996 YLA Tri-Speaker Richard White, is given to the senior-ranking members of the YLA Leadership Team who demonstrate strong leadership and organizational skills. The 2012 honorees are:

Ilana Green, Raleigh Charter High School, Raleigh
Davon Moore, Conley High School, Grimesland
Ryan Burke, Page High School, Greensboro

Special Awards

The Sud-Freemark Award of Service

This award is given in honor of **Ishani Sud**, who attended YLA as an 8th grader. From her 9th –12th grades she was on the leadership team and served as Tri-Speaker in 2003 and 2004. Ishani was instrumental in assisting with recruitment and exposure of YLA to minority youth organizations. She is a graduate of Princeton University in New Jersey.

Yonnie Freemark also attended his first YLA in the 8th grade, served on the leadership team for four years and served as Tri-Speaker in 2004. Yonnie developed the first website for YLA as well as designed a recruitment brochure and other program documents. Yonnie is a graduate of Yale University in Connecticut.

This award is given to a member of the Leadership Team that has participated in YLA for four years with three of those years having served on the Leadership Team as Co-Chair or Tri-Speaker.

The 2012 Sud-Freemark Award of Service was awarded to:

Angelica Mack

Joshua Llodrat

Angelica Mack participated in YLA for five years; one year as a delegate and three years as Co-Chair. She served as a Co-Speaker in 2012.

Joshua Llodrat participated in YLA for four years; one year as a delegate, two years as a Co-Chair. He served as a Co-Speaker in 2012.

DeBottis Outstanding Service Award

The **Josh and Jaime DeBottis Outstanding Service Award** is named for a brother and sister whose combined dedication made a mark on YLA. **Jaime DeBottis** served on the Leadership Team for three years and as Tri-Speaker for two years. She was a member of the State Youth Council for four years, Chair of the High Point Youth Council for two years and Vice Chair for the State Youth Council for two years. Jamie graduated from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. **Josh DeBottis** served on the Leadership Team for three years; two as a Co-Chair and as a 2005 Tri-Speaker. He was a member of the High Point Youth Council for four years in the positions of Chair and Vice Chair. He held the position of Sergeant at Arms with the State Youth Council. Josh is a graduate of Duke University in Durham.

In recognition of his efforts, this year's award was presented to:

Joshua Llodrat, Ledford High School, High Point

Joshua Llodrat served as a member of the High Point Youth Council for four years and has served as its presiding Chair for the past two years. He has also been a member of the State Youth Council for three years, serving as the SYC Secretary last year and is currently the SYC Chair. He has served as a YLA Co-Chair and as Co-Speaker.

A special **Service Award** was given to **Teiashonna Autry**, West Bladen High School, White Oak, for her outstanding dedication and service as a YLA Clerk for the past two years.

2012 Youth Legislative Assembly Sponsors



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YLA 2012-42-01

A BILL ENTITLED AN ACT TO REVISE THE NC ACTION FOR SUPPORT OF MINOR CHILD

WHEREAS, Section 50-13.4 (a) Any parent, or any person, agency, organization or institution having custody of a minor child, or bringing an action or proceeding for the custody of such child, or a minor child by his guardian may institute an action for the support of such child as hereinafter provided.

(http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/HTML/BySection/Chapter_50/GS_50-13.4.html); and

WHEREAS, Section 50-13.4 (b) The judge may order responsible parents in an IV-D establishment case to perform a job search if the responsible parent is not incapacitated. The court may further order the responsible parent to participate in work activities.

(http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/HTML/BySection/Chapter_50/GS_50-13.4.html); and

WHEREAS Section 50-13.4(c) Payments ordered for the support of a minor child shall be in such amount as to meet the reasonable needs of the child for health, education and maintenance, having due regard to the estates, earnings, conditions, accustomed standard of living of the child and the parties, the child care and homemaker contributions of each party and other facts of the particular case. Payments ordered for the support of a minor child shall be on a monthly basis.

(http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/HTML/BySection/Chapter_50/GS_50-13.4.html). Now,

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the 2012 Youth Legislative Assembly that the state of North Carolina institute a child support payment plan that would make it easier for the non custodial parent to see that the money is going directly to the minor.

Section 1: The parent that does not have custody of the child will have to work unless he or she is disabled. If the parent doesn't already have a job he or she will be required to take a civil service test to get them fitted in a work place that suits them.

Section 2: Once the non custodial parent has received the job, he/she will be required to pay child support; a suitable amount will come out of their pay checks once a month. The amount will be determined by the courts and the number of children he/she is required to support.

Section 3: The payments for child support will automatically come out of his/her paycheck and go directly into an account that is for the minor for whom he or she is responsible. The funds will go on a visa debit card which the custodial parent will have to supply the minor's needs.

Section 4: The custodial parent will be assigned a social worker to whom they will turn in all receipts when they are finished using the card.

Section 5: If the custodial parent fails to turn the receipts in to the social worker, the parent will be monitored on the amount of money he/she spends.

Section 6: The card will be used to supply medical, nutritional, clothing and educational supplies and a portion of the utility bills of the home in which the minor lives and any other necessary needs. If the minor receives government assistance the child support money will not be in use for those assistances.

Section 7: When the minor reaches the age of 18, he/she will be still eligible for child support if they decide to go to college as an undergraduate and keep good grades and keep a clean record. The child support will only last if they go to a two or four year college as an undergraduate. The child support will only last for their undergraduate years.

Section 7a: If the minor drops out or gets kicked out of college, he/she will no longer be eligible for child support.

Section 8: If the minor does not go to college they will not be eligible for child support unless they get a court order to extend it to the maximum of 2 years.

Section 9: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2013.

PASSED

For:	134
Against:	39
Abstained:	12

YLA 2012-42-02

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT TO INVALIDATE SENATE BILL 514 (“THE DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT”) AND ESTABLISH SAME-SEX CIVIL UNIONS IN THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

WHEREAS, on April 6, 2011, the North Carolina State Senate passed a bill to amend Section 6 of the North Carolina State Constitution to state “Marriage between one man and one woman is the only domestic legal union that shall be valid or recognized in this State” (<http://ncleg.net/Sessions/2011/Bills/Senate/PDF/S514v3.pdf>); and

WHEREAS, the 14th Amendment of the United States Constitution states that “No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws” (<http://www.law.cornell.edu/constitution/amendmentxiv>); and

WHEREAS, the “Defense of Marriage Act” and/or Amendment One not only prohibits same-sex marriage but recognizes only the union of marriage, prohibiting all civil unions and domestic partnerships, thus preventing all committed non-married hetero- and homosexual citizens from receiving employment benefits (<http://ncleg.net/Sessions/2011/Bills/Senate/PDF/S514v3.pdf>); and

WHEREAS, as of September 4, 2011, 54 percent of North Carolina citizens support either gay marriage or the recognition of homosexual civil unions (www.publicpolicypolling.com/pdf/2011/PPP_Release_NC_09071217.pdf+&hl=en&gl=us); and

WHEREAS, as of September 30, 2011, 56 percent of North Carolina citizens oppose anti-homosexual legislation, and 33 percent support full-marriage rights for LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) citizens (<http://equalitync.org/news1/poll-majority-of-north-carolinians-oppose-anti-lgbt-amendment>); and

WHEREAS, as of August 22, 2001 the number of North Carolina citizens identifying themselves as homosexual rose by 720 percent, up to 16,198 in 10 years (www.urban.org/uploadedpdf/1000491_gl_partner_households.pdf); now

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the members of the 2012 Youth Legislative Assembly that North Carolina General Assembly invalidate the components of Senate Bill 514 and provide homosexual couples with the right to establish civil unions.

Section 1: This bill will not remove the amendment from the ballot in 2012.

- A) If Amendment One (Senate Bill 514) fails, the 2016 ballot will include an amendment to the North Carolina Constitution preventing the General Assembly of North Carolina from denying any rights from homosexuals. If Amendment one passes, the 2020 election will contain another amendment to invalidate Senate Bill 514 and provide equal rights to

homosexual couples; these include every medical, legal, and marital right awarded to heterosexuals.

- B) The proposed amendment will include a statement that the North Carolina Constitution will extend the rights of the United States Constitution's 14th amendment to homosexual individuals.

Section 2: It will also include an amendment to establish both hetero- and homosexual civil unions as legitimate institutions in the State of North Carolina.

- A) If Amendment One is passed on 2012, the voting ballot of the 2020 election will contain a section recognizing the legitimacy of civil unions between *all* couples in the State of North Carolina.
- B) If Amendment One is not passed, the voting ballot of the 2016 election will contain a section recognizing the legitimacy of civil unions between *all* couples in the State of North Carolina.

Section 3: The bill will go into effect on January 1st, 2013.

PASSED

For:	141
Against:	49
Abstained:	22

YLA-2012-42-03

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT TO REQUIRE ALL PUBLIC MIDDLE SCHOOLS AND HIGH SCHOOLS (GRADES 6-12) IN NORTH CAROLINA TO PROVIDE TEEN PEER MENTORING PROGRAMS.

WHEREAS, A peer mentor is a person who may be the same age as, or slightly older than the mentee and with proper training can provide advice and positive support while serving as a role model to the mentee and their peers (http://en.wikipedia.org/Peer_mentoring); and

WHEREAS, teen mentoring positively influences a range of outcomes, including improvements in peer and parental relationships, academic achievement, and self-concept, as well as lower recidivism rates among juvenile delinquents, and reductions in substance abuse (<http://www.yess.co.nz/positiveyouthmentorinresearch.html>); and

WHEREAS, a Public/Private Ventures study of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America found that, of the young people with mentors: 78 percent showed improved self-confidence, 67 percent were better able to make decisions, 65 percent were better able to express their feelings, 52 percent were less likely than their peers to skip a day of school, 46 percent were less likely to start using illegal drugs, and 27 percent were less likely to start drinking alcohol (<http://www.yess.co.nz/positiveyouthmentorinresearch.html>); and

WHEREAS, young people in school-based mentoring programs produce higher quality class work, did better academically and completed more of their assignments than their peers who did not have mentors (<http://www.federalmentoringcouncil.gov/benefits.asp>); now

THEREFORE, let it be resolved by the 2012 Youth Legislative Assembly to require all public middle and high schools in North Carolina to provide teen peer mentoring programs.

Section 1: All public middle and high schools in North Carolina are required to establish a school-based teen peer mentoring program.

A: Each program must partner with some type of youth advocacy organization, e.g. YMCA, Communities in Schools, Big Brother/Big Sister.

Section 2: Mentors must be currently enrolled in high school (grades 9-12).

A: Mentors must submit to a background check. Mentors must submit a minimum of three highly accredited recommendations (preferably teacher, counselor, and one community). Mentors will be required to participate in an interview. Mentors must maintain a minimum of a 3.0 unweighted GPA. Exceptions to these requirements may be made at the discretion of the program leaders under certain circumstances.

B: Mentors must undergo training.

1: Free training can be provided by partner organizations and the Department of Social Services.

2: Mentors-in-training must undergo six hours of training by the partner organizations and/or the Department of Social Services.

Section 3: Mentoring will involve volunteer work and academic assistance.

A: Mentoring schedules will be school based but are preferred to take place after school for at most two hours, and for at least two Saturdays out of the month for one hour.

Section 4: This will take effect for the 2013-2014 school year.

PASSED

For: 159

Against: 29

Abstained: 13

YLA 2012-42-04

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT TO ALLOW NORTH CAROLINA FARMERS TO APPLY FOR A LICENSE PERMITTING THEM TO GROW AND SELL FIBER AND OILSEED FORMS OF HEMP.

WHEREAS, There are numerous varieties of Cannabis Sativa (hemp), the narcotic varieties of Cannabis Sativa used to produce marijuana are different from the fiber and oilseed forms. The forms used to produce marijuana would not be licensed; and

WHEREAS, Marijuana in the illicit market typically has a tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) content of greater than 5%. Licensed forms of hemp would have a THC content of 0.3% or less. A level of 0.3% THC in the flowering parts of the plant is reflective of material that is too low in intoxicant potential to actually be used practically for illicit production of marijuana (<http://www.hort.purdue.edu/newcrop/ncnu02/v5-284.html>); and

WHEREAS, Henry Ford used hemp fibers to reinforce doors and side panels in cars in the early part of the 20th century. Hemp is still used extensively in Europe in automobile production. Hemp fibers can be used to replace non-natural materials in a variety of products including the materials for padding, sound insulation and fiberboard. Hemp makes a superior fiber for use in press-molded thermoplastic production (<http://www.nemeton.com/static/nemeton/axis-mutatis/hemp.html>); and

WHEREAS, Hemp Geotextiles, defined as any strong synthetic fabric used in civil engineering to retain an embankment (<http://www.dictionary.reference.com/browse/geotextile>), can be used to make ground-retaining, biodegradable matting to prevent soil erosion and ground-covers to reduce weeds, replacing environmentally unfriendly plastic mulch and plastic ground netting (http://naihc.org/hemp-information/hemp_facts.html); and

WHEREAS, Hemp is well suited to organic farming. Hemp requires a small amount of insecticide, as most insects cause little damage to hemp. It is also relatively resistant to weeds, so requires little herbicide. Hemp can be used as a substitute for trees in many products and therefore will help keep forests from becoming over harvested (<http://www.nemeton.com/static/nemeton/axis-mutatis/hemp.html>); and

WHEREAS, Hemp produces twice as much fiber per acre as cotton. An area of land twenty five miles by twenty five miles square planted with hemp can produce enough fiber in one year to make 100,000,000 pairs of denim jeans. (<http://www.nemeton.com/static/nemeton/axis-utatis/hemp.html>)

WHEREAS, Canada began a hemp licensing program in 1998, and by 2002 over a thousand licenses have been issued. As a result, demand is surging in the United States, Germany and Japan. But, American farmers are prohibited from growing hemp. That leaves farmers in Canada free to tap the growing US interests in hemp-based products(<http://www.newaghempeconomy.com/>); Now,

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the 2012 Youth Legislative Assembly that North Carolina's Department of Agriculture allow North Carolina farmers to apply for a license permitting them to grow and sell fiber and oil seed forms of hemp.

Section 1: For the first three years, only 100 endorsements will be distributed annually. After the first three years, the endorsement distribution amount will be reevaluated and adjusted by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture.

Section 2: The endorsement will be on the farmers' North Carolina prescription drug wholesale license.

Section 3: Production into textiles and other products would be encouraged with tax incentives until the industry could become self-sufficient.

Section 4: The hemp must be contained in a fenced in a centralized area.

Section 5: Farmers must possess a valid North Carolina prescription drug wholesale license to apply for the endorsement.

Section 6: Farmers must have been approved for the wholesale license for each of the previous two years before applying for the endorsement.

Section 7: Farmers must submit to full property inspections by the N.C. Department of Agriculture every other month after receiving the endorsement.

Section 8: Farmers must have water-conserving irrigation systems within the area containing the hemp and adequate control of irrigation runoff.

Section 9: Upon failing to meet inspection standards, the endorsement shall be reevaluated and possibly revoked. If the endorsement is revoked the farmer shall be ineligible to reapply for the endorsement until January 2 of the next year. Production of hemp without an endorsement or a license shall result in 3-5 years in a state penitentiary in addition to \$10,000 fine, or the current sentence for production and sale of illicit substances, to be determined upon the discretion of the court.

Section 10: Unused portions of the hemp plants will be held in compost piles in an area the plants are grown in, to be used as fertilizer for more plants.

Section 11: This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2014

PASSED

For: 175

Against: 2

Abstained: 28

YLA 2012-42-05

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE LEGALIZATION OF ASSISTED SUICIDE FOR ADULTS, AGES 18 (AND OLDER) IN THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, THE NORTH CAROLINA DEATH WITH DIGNITY ACT.

WHEREAS, in 2001 42.1% of terminally ill patients experience excruciating pain <http://www.chcr.brown.edu/dying/ncprofile.htm>; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, 65 people chose to use assisted suicide <http://public.health.oregon.gov/ProviderPartnerResources/EvaluationResearch/DeathwithDignityAct/Documents/year13.pdf> ; and

WHEREAS, in 2010 92.6% of people who chose to end their life with assisted suicide were enrolled in hospice <http://public.health.oregon.gov/ProviderPartnerResources/EvaluationResearch/DeathwithDignityAct/Documents/yr13-tbl-1.pdf>. Now,

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the 2012 Youth Legislative Assembly that the state of North Carolina legalize assisted suicide through the North Carolina Death with Dignity Act.

SECTION 1: The following terms in this bill carry the following meanings given:

- A) An "Adult" is an individual who is at least 18 years of age;
- B) An "Attending Physician" means the physician who has primary responsibility for the care of the patient and treatment of the patient's terminal disease;
- C) A "Consulting Physician" means a physician who is qualified by specialty or experience to make a professional diagnosis and prognosis regarding the patient's disease;
- D) "Health Care Provider" means a person licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized or permitted by the law of this state to administer health care or dispense medication in the ordinary course of business or practice of a profession and includes a health care facility;
- E) A "Patient" means a person who is under the care of a physician;
- F) A "Physician" means a doctor of medicine or osteopathy licensed to practice medicine by the North Carolina Medical Board;
- G) A "Qualified patient" means a capable adult who is a resident of North Carolina and has satisfied the requirements of this Act in order to obtain a prescription for medication to end his or her life in a humane and dignified manner;
- H) A "Terminal disease" means an incurable and irreversible disease that has been medically confirmed and will, within reasonable medical judgment, produce death within six months; and
- I) An "Informed decision" means a decision by a qualified patient, to request and obtain a prescription for medication that the qualified patient may self-administer to end his or her life in a humane and dignified manner that is based on an appreciation of the relevant facts and after being fully informed by the attending physician of:
 - (a) His or her medical diagnosis;

- (b) His or her prognosis;
- (c) The potential risks associated with taking the medication to be prescribed;
- (d) The probable result of taking the medication to be prescribed; and
- (e) The feasible alternatives including, but not limited to, comfort care, hospice care, and pain control. This defines a chronically painful disease, which is one that causes extreme pain and cannot be cured.

SECTION 2: An adult who is the resident of the State of North Carolina, and has been determined by the attending physician and consulting physician to be suffering from a terminal disease, and who has voluntarily expressed his or her wish to end his or her life, may make a written request for medication for the purpose of ending his or her life in a humane and dignified manner in accordance with this law.

A) The written request must be witnessed by two individuals.

SECTION 3: Written and Oral Requests must be specified as to what type of medicine they choose: Written and oral requests. In order to receive a prescription for medication to end his or her life in a humane and dignified manner, a qualified patient shall have made an oral request and a written request and reiterate the oral request to his or her attending physician no less than thirty (30) days after making the initial oral request. At the time the qualified patient makes his or her second oral request, the attending physician shall offer the patient an opportunity to rescind the request.

SECTION 3.1

Right to rescind request. A patient may rescind his or her request at any time and in any manner without regard to his or her mental state. No prescription for medication under this Act may be written without the attending physician offering the qualified patient an opportunity to rescind the request. Waiting periods. No less than thirty (30) days shall elapse between the patient's initial oral request and the writing of a prescription under the North Carolina Death with Dignity Act. No less than 48 hours shall elapse between the patient's written request and the writing of a prescription under North Carolina Death With Dignity Act.

SECTION 3.2

Medical record documentation requirements. The following shall be documented or filed in the patient's medical record:

- (1) All oral requests by a patient for medication to end his or her life in a humane and dignified manner;
- (2) All written requests by a patient for medication to end his or her life in a humane and dignified manner;
- (3) The attending physician's diagnosis and prognosis, determination that the patient is capable, acting voluntarily and has made an informed decision;
- (4) The consulting physician's diagnosis and prognosis, and verification that the patient is capable, acting voluntarily and has made an informed decision;
- (5) A report of the outcome and determinations made during counseling, if performed;
- (6) The attending physician's offer to the patient to rescind his or her request at the time of the patient's second oral request pursuant to and
- (7) A note by the attending physician indicating that all requirements under the Act have been met and indicating the steps taken to carry out the request, including a notation of the medication prescribed. Residency requirement. Only requests made by North Carolina

residents under the North Carolina Death With Dignity Act shall be granted. Documentation demonstrating North Carolina residency include but are not limited to:

- (1) Possession of a North Carolina driver license;
- (2) Registration to vote in North Carolina;
- (3) Evidence that the person owns or leases property in North Carolina; or
- (4) Filing of a North Carolina tax return for the most recent tax year.

SECTION 3.3

Reporting requirements. (1)(a) The Department of Human Services shall annually review a sample of records maintained (b) The Department shall require any health care provider upon dispensing medication pursuant to the North Carolina Death With Dignity Act to file a copy of the dispensing record with the department.

- (2) The Department shall make rules to facilitate the collection of information regarding compliance with the North Carolina Death With Dignity Act. Except as otherwise required by law, the information collected shall not be a public record and may not be made available for inspection by the public.
- (3) The Department shall generate and make available to the public an annual statistical report of information collected under subsection (2) of this section.

SECTION 4

This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2013.

PASSED

For:	96
Against:	67
Abstained:	40

YLA 2012-42-06

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT TO INCLUDE MANDATORY HPV VACCINATIONS FOR MALES AND FEMALES ENTERING THE NINETH GRADE IN NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOL VACCINATIONS REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS, Human Papillomavirus (HPV) causes virtually all cases of cervical cancer and genital warts, which infects approximately 20 million people in the United States, with 6.2 million new cases each year, no treatment for HPV, only treatment for related health problems; and

WHEREAS, Cervical cancer is the second leading cancer killer of women worldwide, with more than 30 strains of HPV that affect at least half of sexually active people in their lifetime, and

WHEREAS, of 2011, the two FDA-approved vaccines on the market, which the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends administering to girls and boys upon entering high school, are Merck's Gardasil, which protects against HPV strains 6, 11, 16 and 18, and GlaxoSmithKline's Cervarix, which targets HPV strains 16 and 18, with almost 70 percent of cervical cancer cases and 90 percent of genital warts cases linking to these four strains of HPV; now

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the 2012 Youth Legislative Assembly that males and females be required to take the mandatory HPV vaccinations before entering the ninth grade.

Section 1: This bill is brought by the Department of Health and Human Services which makes Human Papillomavirus immunization available to indigent patients, and by the teen VAX program, which provides mandatory insurance coverage for Human Papillomavirus immunization to female policyholders.

Section 2: N.C. Session Law 2007-59 (S.B. 260) requires the Department of Health and Human Services to distribute information on HPV and the vaccine through schools to all parents of children in grades nine through 12, including that this vaccination shall be funded through the Federal Health Department;

Section 3a: Students found violating this law will be warned, along with their parents or guardians, to receive the vaccination.

Section 3b: If a student is found violating this law a second time, he or she will be suspended from school until vaccinated, which will provide an opportunity to receive the vaccination.

Section 4a: If receiving the vaccination causes conflict with an individual's religious background, or if they don't want to be vaccinated, then their parents or guardians must go through a waiver process with the Department of Health and Human Services.

Section 4b: An out-of-state transfer student that is a senior in high school will not be required to receive the vaccination.

Section 5: This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2013.

PASSED

For:	145
Against:	36
Abstained:	28

YLA 2012 42-07

A BILL ENTITLED AN ACT TO REQUIRE DRUG TESTING FOR ALL ADULTS RECEIVING BENEFITS FROM THE WELFARE AID PROGRAM, TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES CASH ASSISTANCE.

WHEREAS, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) cash assistance provides monthly cash benefits to very low-income families based on eligibility standards set by the states. The federal government sets basic rules for administering TANF cash assistance, but states have responsibility for developing their programs such as determining eligibility limits and benefit levels. (http://www.nccp.org/profiles/index_36.html); and

WHEREAS, primary funding for TANF cash assistance is through a federal block grant created with the passage of the 1996 Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (http://www.nccp.org/profiles/index_36.html); and

WHEREAS, if a portion of North Carolina's TANF caseload does not meet federal work requirements the state will lose some federal funding (http://www.nccp.org/profiles/index_36.html); and

WHEREAS, substance abuse can cause reduced productivity, a preoccupation with using or obtaining substances, participation in illegal activities and psychological effects on family members (<http://www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/psychosocial/substance.html>); and

WHEREAS, according to federal law, 42 U.S.C. 862b, a state may not be prohibited from testing welfare recipients for use of controlled substances nor from imposing sanctions on those who test positive (<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/he00044.pdf>); and

WHEREAS, North Carolina currently does not require drug testing for any welfare recipients. Now,

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the 2012 Youth Legislative Assembly that the state of North Carolina requires drug testing for all adults receiving benefits from TANF cash assistance program.

Section 1: Upon acceptance into the program those in a family over the age of eighteen, who are or will be benefitting as a result of TANF cash assistance are required to take a drug screening survey upon acceptance into the program and if they test high for drug addictive personalities they will be required to take a urine drug test and be tested randomly throughout their period of assistance, as well as any re-certification.

- A. Those who fail the first drug test after testing highly for addictive personalities through the survey will be rejected from the program immediately.
- B. Those people who test positive in a random drug screening will be treated according to the current state sanction policy. The current sanction policy for the first sanction is termination of benefits for one month or until compliance, whichever is longer, and maximum sanction (3 months of noncompliance) results in a closed case where the unit must reapply.
- C. An exception to the current sanction policy is all children affected by the noncompliance of an adult in their family will be transferred to a child-only case.

D. After a case is closed for substance abuse the safety and well-being of any children will be evaluated.

Section 2: Options for rehabilitation and breaking substance dependency will be available to all those in the TANF program.

A. After the first sanction, the noncompliant adult(s) will be required to participate in one of the rehabilitation options offered through the TANF program which will be determined by the drug assessment specialist through referral of the caseworker.

Section 3: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2013.

PASSED

For:	181
Against:	10
Abstained:	14

YLA 2012-42-8

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT TO ALLOCATE WATER DURING A DROUGHT

WHEREAS, the allocation of water is a quantity of water that a licensee is entitled to take and use under a Water License

(http://dictionary.nwc.gov.au/water_dictionary/item.cfm?id=774&xref=1); and

WHEREAS, a drought is a period of dry weather, especially a long one that is injurious to crops

(<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/drought>); and

WHEREAS, in the summer of 2007-2008 the state of North Carolina experienced a severe drought which emphasized the need for increased control of water allocation

(http://www.nconconservationnetwork.org/issues/water_issues/water_resources); and

WHEREAS, water consumption in the Southeast grew 15% and the population rose by 20% from 1990 to 2000

(<http://www.wpcog.org/files/publications/Water%20Allocation%20Report%20to%20CRSC%2011-18-09%20.pdf>); and

WHEREAS, currently in the state of North Carolina the water allocation laws declare that public and private water systems are required to prepare a Local Water Supply Plan

(http://www.ncwater.org/Rules_Policies_and_Regulations/Planning/drought_rules.pdf); and

WHEREAS, water users need certainty to protect existing investments and plan for the future

(<http://www.wpcog.org/files/publications/Water%20Allocation%20Report%20to%20CRSC%2011-18-09%20.pdf>); now

THEREFORE, let it be resolved by the 2012 Youth Legislative Assembly to increase the regulations that the state of North Carolina has upon water allocation from their current laws to stricter laws.

Section 1: All laws about water allocation need to be updated for 21st century purposes

A. Including all previous laws pertaining to the allocation of water such as The Interbasin Transfer Act and The Water Use Act.

B. The State should establish a permit for large water withdrawals.

Section 2: The level of water allocation will depend on the number of gallons of water used.

Section 3: State's Department of Environment and Natural Resources will always have control over water allocation laws.

Section 4: There should be a punishment for not preparing a Local Water Supply Plan.

- A. The punishment should be a fine of \$10,000 per day until the problem is fixed and the money paid thereof to go to the movement of water throughout the state.

Section 5: If the offender continues to ignore the law, the presiding judge may decide to increase the fine or to sentence jail time.

- A. The minimum jail sentence will be 6 months and the maximum will be 1 year.

Section 6: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2013.

PASSED

For: 93

Against: 65

Abstained: 53

YLA 2012-42-09

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED A RESOLUTION FOR NORTH CAROLINA TO PROPERLY CLASSIFY ALCOPOPS AS SPIRITS AND THEREFORE THEY CAN ONLY BE SOLD IN ABC STORES

WHEREAS, Alcopops is a colloquial term describing certain flavored alcoholic beverages including malt beverages to which various fruit juices or other flavorings have been added; and

WHEREAS, The sweet, sugary alternatives to bitter beers and wines combine the sweet taste of Kool-Aid with the kick of malt liquor to create a taste that is particularly appealing to teens. The marketing for this style of alcohol also appeals to the younger generation. Even though the alcohol industry claims it is marketing alcopops to young adults, ages 21-27, far more teens than adults are aware of the advertising and commercials for these products (<http://www.prairieview.net/Alcopops.htm>); and

WHEREAS, Alcopops contain distilled spirits; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina law (NCGS 18B 101 (14)) states that any product containing spirits “regardless of its dilution” be classified as spirits; and

WHEREAS, the 21st amendment of the US Constitution grants states sole authority over the sale, taxation and distribution of alcohol; and

WHEREAS, TV beer ads are among the most widely anticipated and remembered ads during sports events and a recent report from the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) found that alcopop ads also ran during pre-9 p.m. shows with a high teen audience (<http://www.prairieview.net/Alcopops.htm>); and

WHEREAS, Statistics show that both teens (67%) and adults (72%) believe that liquor and beer companies target young people with their advertising and that this contributes to underage drinking; (www.centerforscieneinpublicinterest); and

WHEREAS, Studies released earlier by the Center of Alcohol and Youth revealed that girls age 12-20 saw 95% more ads for Alcopops than women over 21; and

WHEREAS, These beverages have been shown over and over to be a rapid gateway for some teens, not only to the strongest alcoholic beverages, but also to drugs, criminal acts and treacherous social behaviors—like teen sexual assault and rape; and

WHEREAS, A US based company in March of 2011 started marketing Flavored Alcoholic Beverages with 12 percent alcohol by volume, which is about twice the level of the original version of Colt 45; (<http://online.wsj.com/article/>); and

WHEREAS, Alcopop drinks, which the industry claims are “brewed” malt, are categorized as “beer” and that means that their producers avoid the significantly higher tax rates for hard spirits or “alcohol. Low taxes also help keep the price point low and the youth appeal high , (<http://www.menstuff.org/issues/byissue/alcopops.html>); and

WHEREAS, the Marin Institute reported in 2007 that alcopops cost the state of North Carolina over \$207 million, 10 lives and over 7500 incidents of harm in one year. Now,

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the 2012 Youth Legislative Assembly that Alcopops be properly classified as spirits meaning they only be sold in ABC Stores.

Section1A: The BATF shall demand that label statements and label and packaging design clearly and conspicuously disclose the alcoholic content expressed as a percentage of volume as well as in number of standard drinks per container of these starter drinks and diminish their attractiveness to teens.

Section 2a: through proper classification it will therefore be unlawful to sell alcopop beverages anywhere other than ABC stores.

Section 2b: These beverages will not be marketed on public television before, during or after teen programming, or on Internet sites most visited by teens until after 12:00 midnight.

Section 3: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2013.

PASSED

For:	130
Against:	44
Abstained:	13

YLA 2012-42-10

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT TO INTRODUCE ANTI-BULLYING LAWS INTO NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

WHEREAS, there are no current laws defining the consequences of bullying in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, roughly 62 percent of students reported being targets of traditional bullying in the 2006-2007 school year (<http://www.campussafteymagazine.com/Channel/School-Safety/News/2010/07/26/62-of-Students-Report-Being-Bullied.aspx>); and

WHEREAS, over half of adolescents and teens have been bullied online, and about the same number have engaged in cyber bullying (<http://www.bullyingstatistics.org/content/cyber-bullying-statistics.html>); and

WHEREAS, around half of teens have been the victims of cyber bullying, but one out of ten do not tell their parents when the cyber bullying occurred (<http://www.bullyingstatistics.org/content/cyber-bullying-statistics.html>); and

WHEREAS, in the first nationally representative U.S. study of bullying, which included more than 15,000 students in grades 6-10, researchers found that 17 percent of students reported having been bullied “sometimes” or more often during the school term. Eight percent had been bullied at least once a week. Nineteen percent had bullied “sometimes” or more often during the term, and 9 percent had bullied other students at least once a week (<http://olweus.org/public/faqs.page>); and

WHEREAS, children who are victimized in school crime often suffer from decreased self-esteem, truancy, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder and in extreme cases, suicide and violent retaliation (<http://www.nceev.org/violence/school.html>); and

WHEREAS, 71percent of students report incidents of bullying as a problem at their school (http://www.makebeatsnotbeatdowns.org/facts_new.html); now

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the members of the 2012 Youth Legislative Assembly that North Carolina public and private schools introduce anti-bullying laws in order to protect the victims of school bullying.

Section 1: In cases of cyber bullying, North Carolina public and private schools:

1. Are required to monitor all school supported media sites.
2. All students are required to have an individual log-in on the school computers. A printed report of the student’s computer history must be sent to the school’s guidance counselor or mentor by the instructor of the school’s computer lab.
3. A printed report of the student’s computer history must be sent to the school’s guidance counselor or mentor by the instructor of the school’s computer lab.

4. The guidance counselor or mentor must review this report and, if a school media site has been accessed and the student has engaged in abusive or aggressive language, then the guidance counselor or mentor will be required to check the student's internet activity.
5. If the student has engaged in abusive or offensive behavior directed towards another student or group of students the consequences will be:
 - a. Probation: Students will be banned from all school supported media sites for an appropriate length of time decided by the school administration.
 - b. Suspension: The student will be suspended from school and all school activities for a period of time deemed appropriate by the school administration.
 - c. Expulsion: The student will be expelled and the police will be called for further criminal investigation.

Section 2: If a student is seen committing a physical, violent, or aggressive act the school will be required to distribute the following consequences:

1. The student will be required to spend their breaks and lunches in a designated area supervised by a faculty member for the rest of the school year.
2. In addition to the first consequence the student will receive suspension for a period of multiple days deemed appropriate by the school administration.
3. The student will be expelled and a report will be sent to the police for further criminal investigation.

Section 3: If repeated aggressive or hostile language, written or spoken, is presented to or discovered by a faculty member, and it is proven that any form of psychological or emotional damage has occurred, then the school administration will be required to:

1. Require the student to be supervised by a faculty member in a designated area during all of the student's free periods.
2. Suspend the student for a period of time deemed appropriate by the school administration.
3. The student will be expelled and the student will be reported to the police for further criminal investigation.

Section 4: All schools are required to create a disciplinary policy in which a specific number of days of suspension is assigned per grade level for each form of bullying based on its severity.

Section 5: This bill will go into effect for the 2012-2013 academic school year.

PASSED

For:	161
Against:	17
Abstained:	22