

[Date]

The Honorable [First Name] [Last Name] [NOTE: Use “The Honorable” if incumbent up for reelection.]
[Office/Institution/Campaign, depending upon whether incumbent or outside candidate]
[Address Line 1]
[Address Line 2]

Dear [Title = Senator or Representative if incumbent] [Last Name],

I am writing to you as a member of an organization that helps comprise “The 4th Branch.” The 4th Branch is a coalition of public-service employee and retiree organizations, committed to leveling the playing field in North Carolina for *all* government retirees through fair taxation. A large number of your voting constituents are represented in this Coalition. Learn more about this organization at www.4thbranchnc.org.

Currently, military, federal, state and local retirees in North Carolina who started their careers by August, 1984, are exempt from paying state income tax on their retirement benefits. Those now retiring now will have to pay the tax on their hard-earned benefits. During this 2017-2018 session of the North Carolina General Assembly, legislation was filed that would have eliminated this inequity.

While House Bill 103 did not pass before the legislative session ended, The 4th Branch will continue its work to see this unfair, unwise tax policy eliminated. Not only will it benefit hundreds of thousands of North Carolinians, but also the state’s economy. For every $1 a veteran or retired public servant saves in state income tax, North Carolina accrues $2.50 in economic benefits. (Source: 4thbranchnc.org/resources)

**If elected in November, The 4th Branch would like to know if you will introduce, sponsor or vote in favor of legislation to eliminate the state income tax on the retirement benefits of ALL of North Carolina’s retired veterans and public servants during the 2019-2020 session of the N.C. General Assembly.** Please let us know by contacting either Chuck Stone at **otherchuckstone@aol.com** **or** Robert Allen at **retiredrobertallen@gmail.com** **.** We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely yours,

[Your Name, Title, Organization]