



The 2018 election is finally over, and probably not soon enough for most of us! For weeks, our television programs and mailboxes have been invaded by politicians advertising their beliefs and platforms. In North Carolina, major changes did occur. I will briefly share those changes and how they impact the political climate.

The major change in North Carolina state politics is that Republicans lost their supermajorities in both chambers. With recounts occurring and possibly more changes, Republicans thus far have lost nine seats in the House, with the new membership consisting of 66 Republicans and 54 Democrats. The Senate Republicans lost six seats, making the current total 29 Republicans and 21 Democrats. What does this initially mean? It means NC's Governor, Roy Cooper, truly has a seat at the table now, and his vetoes cannot easily be overturned. This gives the Democrat caucuses in both chambers more power in the state, but not control of either chamber.

Also, as we enter into the holiday season, I am working to schedule meetings with newly elected NC House and Senate members to meet with as many of them as possible before the new session convenes in late January. However, current members are returning on November 27<sup>th</sup> for another special session to deal with hurricane relief and perhaps other matters.

I hope everyone has safe travels next week for Thanksgiving celebrations. I will be back next month with a report on the November special session.