



2010 Policy Agenda

Past investments in public structures made by policymakers have built the state's quality of life we enjoy today. From public schools to higher education, from transportation to public health, these investments connect households to opportunity and make our communities strong. In the face of the current economic crisis, it is more important than ever for North Carolina's elected officials to invest in its people and communities. In order to do so, policymakers must reform the state's outdated revenue system and ensure the budget reflects the priority of economic opportunity and recovery for all, as recommended by Together NC.

North Carolina's full economic recovery will require the creation of jobs and greater support for North Carolina's workers so that households can meet their immediate needs and invest in their household's long-term security. This means that policymakers must make efforts to address the state's high unemployment rate a priority. Policymakers should also take action on asset building policies that can stimulate local economies and create jobs, such as the state's EITC and the N.C. Housing Trust Fund.

The N.C. Assets Alliance is committed to working with policymakers to promote economic opportunity for all North Carolinians to ensure the state's continued economic stability. The 2010 Assets Agenda aims to move North Carolina closer to that goal.

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- **Improve access to affordable health insurance coverage for children by removing the cap on enrollment for the Health Choice children's health insurance program and funding outreach.**
 - **Promote the retention and expansion of good jobs by 1) ensuring that the state fully utilizes all state and federal resources and incentives to provide small businesses access to capital and credit; and 2) creating additional incentives for small businesses to add jobs and new enterprises to form.**
 - **Amend NC's annexation laws to address challenges faced by low wealth communities.**
 - **Fully fund the North Carolina Housing Trust Fund.**
 - **Continue and expand the North Carolina Commissioner of Bank's State Home Foreclosure Prevention Project.**
 - **Pass SB 1015 – 'Homeowner/Homebuyer Protection Act' – that provides protections against foreclosure rescue scams and abusive home purchase arrangements.**
 - **Increase the level of support to working families provided through the NC Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to 15%.**

The North Carolina Assets Alliance is a coalition of organizations committed to educating the public and policy makers about asset-based strategies that promote economic security and prosperity for all North Carolinians. Together, the Alliance develops and promotes a statewide policy agenda to help policy makers understand the connection between work, income, savings and asset accumulation issues affecting low to moderate income households. For more information, visit: www.ncassets.org.