

DID YOU KNOW ...

# ELIMINATION OF NC CORPORATE INCOME TAX WILL HARM THE STATE

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Although it is not on the November ballot, but also guaranteed to further drain the state's coffers, is an NCGA approved revision to the state corporate income tax.

Under the auspices of the Republican-controlled General Assembly, North Carolina is currently executing a multi-year phase-out designed to completely eliminate the state corporate income tax:



Please review the Weekend Joe articles on the Constitutional State Income Tax Amendment and the Constitutional Property Tax Amendment. Each bill, if approved as part of the voting in the November midterms, will contribute to a precipitous slide in state revenue. You'll find the columns on [myhcdp.com](http://myhcdp.com) under the Take Action - Guest Opinions menu.

Our corporate income tax, currently at 2%, is already the lowest tax rate among states that levy a corporate tax. The current national corporate tax rate is roughly 6% to 7%. NC corporate income and franchise taxes contribute \$2.1-\$2.5 billion yearly to the state's revenue coffers.

It is instructive to remember a similar effort the Kansas legislature enacted in 2012. They slashed their income tax and eliminated corporate tax rates. The cuts were reversed in 2017 after voters and lawmakers saw how much they had damaged the state.

NC businesses consume a disproportionate share of many of the state-supplied and maintained infrastructures, such as roads, bridges, airports and seaports. The rest of us pay taxes to support our infrastructure. Does not seem unreasonable to expect the business community to shoulder some of the load.

Helene is not in the rear-view mirror for folks living in WNC. It should be a cautionary tale for the entire state. We do not want to pay high taxes, but the data comparisons cited in the Weekend Joe articles on the proposed Constitutional Amendments scheduled for a vote in November clearly illustrate that our taxes are very moderate compared to most other US states. Let's not replay the Kansas fiasco. Let's be prepared whenever unforeseen costs dictate a temporary infusion of state fiscal help.

Instead, let's elect Democrats Doyle Brown, Lynne Russo and John Morgan to the NCGA.

An editorial by Joe Elliott. Not authorized by any candidate or any candidate's committee.