



BOARD BULLETIN

July 11, 2008

State Budget Highlights

The General Assembly approved its FY 2008-2009 spending plan earlier this week after two (2) weeks of conference deliberations. The budget includes several items of significance for counties. Below please find several highlights:

- **\$60 million to improve local crisis and state psychiatric services for the mentally ill. More specifically, additional hospital psychiatric beds should increase local capacity and response times. No additional funds were appropriated for substance abuse services.**
- **Funding reductions and special legislative provisions to reign in community support services which have faced scrutiny due to cost overruns and unjustified service provision.**
- **\$500,000 additional funding for the local Juvenile Crime Prevention Councils (JCPC) and \$258,000 additional funding for the Criminal Justice Partnership Program (CJPP).**
- **\$10 million was appropriated for gang prevention and improved gang reporting programs.**
- **Increases daycare subsidies to serve more than 1,100 additional children.**
- **\$2.9 million in low-wealth supplemental education funding and \$6 million disadvantaged children funding for local school systems.**
- **Increases the ADM allotment for academically gifted students and children with disabilities.**
- **Expands More at Four funding by \$30 million**
- **Increases school bus fuel allocations by \$35 million**
- **Provides \$50 million to the NC Rural Center for water, sewer and natural gas grants.**
- **Appropriates reserve funds to begin development of the combined motor vehicle property tax collection and vehicle registration automation system.**

NaCo Prescription Drug Card - Update

The County just recently received its June 2008 performance and cost report associated with the prescription drug card program. The total cost savings for our citizens since the card was implemented by the Board back in April 2007 has been \$12,455. The average user is realizing a savings of over \$7.00 per transaction.

Revaluation Legislation - Update

The Senate objected to a House change to **\$1878** (Property Tax Modifications) that would have changed the threshold for a county to advance its scheduled revaluation.

The Senate's version mandates that a county must schedule a revaluation before Jan. 1 of the third year following notification their sales/assess ratio was below .90. This change will obligate some counties to revalue property more often than the current eight-year requirement. In fact, based on the performance of Anson County's 2002 revaluation, Anson would have been forced to accelerate its current revaluation cycle to comply with this law.

An amendment in the House called for the threshold to change from .90 to .70. The House and Senate will appoint conferees to work out the differences between the two bills.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Recessed Board Meeting	Monday, July 21 5:00 PM Courtroom #1
Regular Board Meeting	Monday, August 11 6:00 PM Courtroom #1
Golden Leaf Foundation Community Assistance Forum	Tuesday, August 12 1:00 PM Lockhart-Taylor Center
NCACC Annual Conference	August 20-23 New Bern, NC