



**Legislative Update  
and Action Alert  
June 18, 2010**

*Please read and forward to your colleagues and networks!*

**In this Issue:**

- **HB 901 – Healthful Living Honors Courses**
- **SB 1197 – Reinstate Cigarette Stamps**

**HB 901- Healthful Living Honors Courses to be  
Heard in Senate Education Cmt Next Week**

**Contact Senate Education Committee Members!**

The Senate Education Committee has placed on its calendar [HB 901- Healthful Living Honors Courses](#). **The bill is expected to be heard by the committee on Wednesday, June 23 at 10 a.m. in room 643 of the Legislative Office Building.** Please plan to attend to show your organization's support.

The rationale for creating honors courses is to offer challenging, rigorous, higher-level Healthful Living education opportunities for students who aspire to an advanced level of learning and training for allied health professional career tracks. Honors courses will also put this subject area and skill set on par with other academic skill sets.

**Healthful Living Honors Courses Aim To Promote The Following:**

- Development of health literate students who are critical thinkers, problem solvers, and who identify and creatively address health problems and issues at multiple levels, ranging from personal to international.
- Analysis of individual, family, social & societal influences and effects on health behavior & health status.
- Planning, selection and utilization of testing and measurement tools for the assessment of physical performance, health status and/or health benefit.

**This bill will NOT incur any cost to the state.** This bill simply authorizes local school systems to offer the Healthful Living honors course, if they chose to do so. The Healthful Living honors course curriculum has already been prepared by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and is ready to implement.

**Allied Health Professions are the most rapidly growing job opportunities in NC and beyond. Healthful Living Honors Courses can prepare students for careers in the following areas:**

- Exercise physiologist
- Nutrition specialist
- Epidemiologist
- Public health educator
- Sports medicine/athletic trainer
- Sports psychologist
- Strength and condition specialist
- Cardiac rehabilitation specialist
- Physical therapist
- Occupational therapist
- Teachers of health education and physical education

[Click Here](#) to view a copy of the bill.

[Click Here](#) to view talking points on this subject.

**Contact Members of the Senate Education Committee**  
**(by clicking on the name below)**  
**to Urge Support for HB 901**

**Members of the Senate Education Committee:**

Co-Chairman	<a href="#">Sen. Tony Foriest</a> (D-Alamance)
Co-Chairman	<a href="#">Sen. Richard Stevens</a> (R-Wake)
Vice Chairman	<a href="#">Sen. Joe Sam Queen</a> (D- Avery, Haywood, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Yancey)
Vice Chairman	<a href="#">Sen. Julia Boseman</a> (D-New Hanover)
Vice Chairman	<a href="#">Sen. Katie G. Dorsett</a> (D-Guilford)
Members	<a href="#">Sen. Austin M. Allran</a> (R-Catawba, Iredell)
	<a href="#">Sen. Tom Apodaca</a> (R-Buncombe, Henderson, Polk)
	<a href="#">Sen. Philip E. Berger</a> (R-Guilford, Rockingham)
	<a href="#">Sen. Doug Berger</a> (D-Franklin, Granville, Vance, Warren)
	<a href="#">Sen. Harry Brown</a> (R-Jones, Onslow)
	<a href="#">Sen. Charlie S. Dannelly</a> (D-Mecklenburg)
	<a href="#">Sen. Don Davis</a> (D-Greene, Pitt, Wayne)
	<a href="#">Sen. Margaret Highsmith Dickson</a> (D-Cumberland)
	<a href="#">Sen. James Forrester</a> (R-Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln)
	<a href="#">Sen. Linda Garrou</a> (D-Forsyth)
	<a href="#">Sen. W. Edward (Eddie) Goodall</a> (R-Mecklenburg, Union)
	<a href="#">Sen. Malcolm Graham</a> (D-Mecklenburg)
	<a href="#">Sen. Fletcher L. Hartsell, Jr.</a>
	<a href="#">Sen. David W. Hoyle</a> (D-Gaston)
	<a href="#">Sen. Ed Jones</a> (D-Bertie, Chowan, Gates, Halifax, Hertford, Northampton, Perquimanns)

[Sen. Floyd B. McKissick, Jr.](#) (D-Durham)  
[Sen. Martin L. Nesbitt, Jr.](#) (D-Buncumbe)  
[Sen. Jean Preston](#) (R-Cartaret, Craven, Pamlico)  
[Sen. William R. Purcell](#) (D-Anson, Richmond, Scotland, Stanly)  
[Sen. Bob Rucho](#) (R-Mecklenburg)  
[Sen. John Snow](#) (D-Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Jackson, Macon, Swain, Transylvania)  
[Sen. Josh Stein](#) (D-Wake)  
[Sen. A. B Swindell](#) (D-Nash, Wilson)  
[Sen. Jerry W. Tillman](#) (R-Montgomery, Randolph)

## **How to Contact ANY Legislator to Express Support for these Obesity Prevention Issues:**

**To email** your House or Senate Member, go to the [General Assembly's Website](#), find the name of your Representative or Senator and double click on the email address.

**To call** your representative or senator, please call 919-733-4111 and ask for your Representative of Senator by name to be transferred.

If you are not sure of the name of your Representative or Senator, check the General Assembly's website at: <http://www.ncleg.net/GIS/RandR07/Home.html>

On this page, you may look up your representative or senator by district number, by County, or by Zip Code +4. (Use the Postal Service's [ZIP Code Look-Up Engine](#) to find your zip code +4).

## **Cigarette Stamp Bill Expected to be Heard by Senate Finance Committee**

The Alliance continues to promote the cigarette stamp issue at the General Assembly, along with many other organizations working via the Fire-Safe Cigarettes Coalition. Legislative sources are still saying that [SB 1197](#) - REINSTATE CIGARETTE TAX STAMPS (Hartsell-R; Clodfelter-D) is expected to move at any time in the Senate Finance Committee, though timing is running short if the legislature plans to adjourn on or shortly after the end of the fiscal year on June 30.

In most states, cigarette stamps are required to be attached to packages of cigarettes as evidence of payment of the cigarette tax (now 45 cents/pack in NC). In 1993, NC's stamp requirement was repealed and now only three states in the nation (North Carolina, South Carolina and North Dakota) do not require cigarette stamps. The lack of the cigarette stamp in NC has allowed NC's relatively inexpensive and low-taxed cigarettes to be bought in large quantities and sold in other states, particularly in northeastern states with higher cigarette taxes. In addition, NC's lack of a cigarette stamp is making it difficult, if not impossible, to enforce our state's new fire-safe cigarette law. Without a mechanism to track cigarettes coming into the state, it is impossible to ensure that the cigarettes coming into the state are actually fire-safe as required by law.

The Alliance supports reinstating NC's cigarette stamp to promote health, safety, crime prevention efforts and increased state revenue. By preventing contraband trafficking and other cigarette tax evasion, cigarette stamps not only fight crime and increase government revenues but also help to protect public health and reduce smoking by stopping illegal cigarette sales at below-market prices. In addition, the cigarette stamp will help ensure that fire-safe cigarettes are the ONLY cigarettes available in NC.

Please [Click Here](#) for talking points on the cigarette stamp issue.

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**What *MORE* can you do to promote obesity and tobacco use prevention policies before NC's legislative and executive branches?**

Have your organization, its board members, staff and volunteers sign the Alliance's resolutions to demonstrate your support for making North Carolina's worksites and public places smoke-free. Access the resolutions by going to the Alliance's website at:

[Resolution Supporting the Establishment of Science-Based Nutrition Standards for all Food Offered in Schools](#)

[Resolution Supporting 100% Smoke-Free Worksites and Public Places](#)

[Resolution Supporting an Increase in the Cigarette Tax BY at Least \\$1](#)

**See our website for fact sheets, talking points and other resources promoting NCAH policy priorities.**

[www.ncallianceforhealth.org](http://www.ncallianceforhealth.org)

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**For additional information about the North Carolina Alliance for Health, please contact Alliance Executive Director Pam Seamans at [pamseamans@nc.rr.com](mailto:pamseamans@nc.rr.com) or Alliance Administrative Assistant Jennifer Park at (919) 463-8329 or [t-Jennifer.Roy@heart.org](mailto:t-Jennifer.Roy@heart.org)**

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