

Anthony Solari -- Legislative Record

Over the last 20 years I have served as a lobbyist for for-profit, non-profit and governmental agencies. During that time, I brought legislation to the N.C. General Assembly covering a wide range of issues. These include but are not limited to: health care transformation, digital and precision health development, health care management and health care costs, health care access, public pension plans, public sector investments, local and state government debt, comprehensive energy legislation, and bills regulating the insurance industry. This record of success was achieved under both Republican and Democratic control of government.

In addition to legislation enacted, I and my legislative teams successfully defended against over **150** pieces of legislation deemed hostile to the vision and mission of the organizations we represented. In 2012 I was named one of the most influential lobbyists at the General Assembly by the N.C. Center for Public Policy Research and was one of the only liaisons ever to make this list. I have excellent relationships with both Republican and Democratic members of the General Assembly. A very brief overview of the legislation I worked to have enacted appears below.

Major Public Policy Legislation

- Digital Health Impact Center pilot program funding (2019)
- Monitoring of and input into regulatory hearings on behalf of AmeriLeaf Investor Group. (2019)
- Legislation supporting the development of medical cannabis in North Carolina. (2019)
- \$5 million appropriation for the Community Innovation Fund economic development program (2019)
- “Competitive Energy Solutions for North Carolina” A comprehensive overall of North Carolina’s energy infrastructure. (H.B. 589, 2017)
- “State Health Plan Administrative Changes” (H.B. 299, 2017)
- “The Pensions Integrity Act of 2017” (H.B. 176, 2017)
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- “Transfer of the State Health Plan to oversight and management by the Department. (2011)
- Creation of the North Carolina Venture Multiplier Fund (2016)
- Three bills making statutory changes relating to the State Health Plan
- Three Bills Regulating the State’s Investment Allocation for its \$100 billion portfolio. (2009, 2011, 2013) These were very controversial bills resulting in tough legislative battles.
- Worked with stakeholder groups to raise the State’s cap on energy performance contracts.
- Legislation authorizing the creation of the “*Innovation Fund*.” \$500 million devoted to investments in innovative energy, bio-tech and other technologies.
- Legislation authorizing the creation of the “*Venture Multiplier Fund*.” \$40 million designed to leverage private sector investments including “angel” and “venture capital” investments in cutting edge technologies.
- Four Bills affecting the State’s Unclaimed Property Program including a nationally recognized piece of consumer protection legislation regulating “property finder” organizations. (2009, 2011, 2013, 2014)
- A Bill creating a 403(b) supplemental retirement plan for teachers. This passed despite significant opposition from the insurance industry. (2011)
- Six major bills impacting the Teachers and State Employees Retirement and Local Government Employees Retirement Systems. These bills created 5 year vesting for state employees, revised the fire and rescue squad pension system, prevented pension spiking and helped to stop waste, fraud and abuse of the retirement systems. (2010, 2012, 2013, 2014)

Additional Public Policy Legislation

- Eight bills making technical corrections to General Statutes governing the Retirement Systems.
- Six bills making significant administrative changes to the Retirement Systems.
- A bill allowing officers and directors of the Retirement plans to take out liability insurance.
- A bill conforming NC bond Statutes to the post 2008 recession recovery act.
- A bill maintaining the confidentiality of Unclaimed Property records.
- A bill allowing business holders of unclaimed property to make electronic reports and which also lessened administrative and regulatory burdens on businesses holding unclaimed property.
- Two bills improving the ability of State Agencies to share information, improving efficiency.

Budgetary Appropriations to Department of State Treasurer

An important part of my work is to secure resources for the Department in support of its mission. Despite the severe recession of 2008-2009 and significant cutbacks to all state agency budgets the Department was able to secure significant new resources in both personnel and funds. The Department's certified general fund budget in 2008 was \$43.3 million. For 2015 it was over \$49 million.