



CONGRESSWOMAN  
**DEBORAH ROSS**  
REPRESENTING  NORTH CAROLINA'S 2<sup>ND</sup> DISTRICT

# 2021

*Year In Review*

# *A note from Congresswoman Ross*

Dear Neighbor:

It is one of the greatest honors of my life to serve North Carolina's Second District. As we look back on the past year, I want to share how I've been fighting for Wake County in Congress.

2021 was a difficult year for our community and our country – beginning with a violent insurrection that threatened our democracy and the COVID-19 pandemic that continues to pose serious health and economic challenges to North Carolinians. I'm immensely grateful for everyone in Wake County who stepped up and acted in extraordinary ways to support our people amid these trying times.

Over the past year, I've traveled around Wake County, hosted events, met with constituents virtually and in-person, and taken to heart all of your views, insights, and concerns. I'm incredibly proud of what my office and I have accomplished for the people of Wake County. We helped constituents access the resources they were owed by the federal government, delivering millions of dollars back to you. I introduced commonsense, bipartisan measures to support all North Carolinians. We passed historic legislation that delivered the investments our community urgently needs – from the American Rescue Plan to the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.



There is still so much work to do, and I look forward to fighting for you in the year ahead.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deborah Ross".

The News & Observer

***After NC battles, Rep. Deborah Ross tries to rise above the fray in Washington, D.C.***

# First Year by the Numbers

## Legislative Update



**40** Bills, amendments, and resolutions introduced



**24** Bills, amendments, and resolutions passed the House



**11** Bipartisan bills and resolutions introduced



**2** Bills signed into law

## Working for Wake County



**\$2.8 million+** Returned to constituents



**70,000+**  
Written responses to constituents



**150+**  
Meetings with constituents



**760+**  
Constituent cases closed



**70+**  
District events attended

# *Signed Into Law*

## **Consolidating Fort Bragg Judicial District**

**Congresswoman Ross' bipartisan legislation with her North Carolina delegation colleagues consolidated Fort Bragg into one federal judicial district - the Eastern District of North Carolina. This was a commonsense solution for North Carolinians, easing the burden of traveling miles to Durham, Greensboro, or Winston-Salem to resolve court matters.**

NEWS The Fayetteville Observer

**Fort Bragg to consolidate into one federal judicial district**

## **Expanding Electric Vehicles**

**The historic Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act included Congresswoman Ross' legislation that directs the Secretaries of Energy and Transportation to establish a working group to make recommendations on the development and integration of electric vehicles into the transportation and energy systems of the United States.**

WRAL.com

**Plenty of NC projects to benefit from infrastructure package**

# Combating the Pandemic

The pandemic brought extraordinary health and economic challenges that our people faced with immense courage and resilience. Congresswoman Ross was proud to vote for the American Rescue Plan as one of her first major acts in Congress. This legislation was critical to getting North Carolinians affected by the pandemic back on their feet; supporting small businesses, restaurants, and venues that were forced to shut their doors; and helping state and local governments fight the virus, distribute vaccines, reopen schools safely, and more.

## The American Rescue Plan

*Historic programs that delivered millions of dollars in funding to North Carolina:*

- ✓ **The Expanded Child Tax Credit:** \$292 million in tax cuts for Second District families
- ✓ **Shuttered Venue Operators Grant:** \$268 million for shuttered venues in North Carolina
- ✓ **Restaurant Revitalization Fund:** \$129 million in restaurant grants for Second District small businesses



Congresswoman Ross Secures Funds to Help  
North Carolina Restaurants  
March 19, 2021 [Press Release](#)  
Ross-backed provision to support restaurants  
included in the American Rescue Plan



# *Business Success Stories*

**Venues in Wake County have faced difficult obstacles during the pandemic. My office and I were honored to help venues across the Second District receive Shuttered Venue Operators Grants so they could keep their doors open, keep employees on payroll, and continue contributing to our vibrant arts and entertainment industries in Wake County.**

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Simply put, without the SVO Grant that Artspllosure was fortunate to receive earlier this year, we would not be financially able to relaunch our roster of free art festivals this fall. The SBA's SVOG program has jumpstarted our arts presenting industry, which not only benefits the local economy but plays a central role in building community spirit and pride. I would like to thank Rep. Ross for fighting for this crucial funding in the American Rescue Plan and her continued support of the arts and entertainment industry.

-- Michael Lowder, Artspllosure

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The North Carolina Symphony is filled with gratitude to be a recipient of a Shuttered Venue Operators Grant from the Small Business Administration. Not only are these special funds facilitating our efforts to return to in-person concerts and to meet our dual mission of statewide service and music education for another year, they also are helping us mitigate the devastating effects of the pandemic on Symphony business operations. This type of financial support is critically important as we endeavor to survive COVID-19. On behalf of the entire North Carolina Symphony organization, I want to thank Congresswoman Ross for her support and for the vital role she played in securing this essential source of funding.

-- Sandi Macdonald, North Carolina Symphony

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# Fighting Climate Change

As a member of the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee, Congresswoman Ross is committed to combating climate change and cleaning up our water systems. In Congress, she has led efforts to better regulate PFAS, also known as “forever chemicals,” that contaminate our water, soil, and communities. In North Carolina, chemical companies have polluted the Cape Fear River with PFAS for years, resulting in serious health consequences for local residents.

That’s why she cosponsored the PFAS Action Act, legislation that would require comprehensive regulation of PFAS by establishing standards to protect drinking water from contamination and authorizing grants to drinking water utilities treating PFAS contamination in the Southeast.

North Carolina offers incredible potential for the offshore wind industry. We lead all other East Coast states in both offshore wind energy generation capacity and manufacturing workforce. Rep. Ross was pleased to join Rep. Paul Tonko (NY-20) to introduce the Restoring Offshore Wind Opportunities Act, legislation to reverse President Trump’s offshore wind energy leasing moratorium.

She teamed up with Congressman David Rouzer (NC-07) and led the North Carolina delegation in sending a letter to the Administration expressing support to promptly and responsibly advance lease sales.



*Congresswoman, EPA Administrator Regan unveil plan at NC State to address PFAS; thousands of North Carolinians are affected by PFAS contamination*





# Protecting Our Democracy

## Last year, Rep. Ross helped pass:

- ✓ **H.R. 4, the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, legislation to restore the full protections of the Voting Rights Act.**
- ✓ **H.R. 1, the For The People Act, legislation to expand Americans' access to the ballot box, reduce the influence of money in politics, and strengthen ethics rules for public servants.**
- ✓ **Protecting Our Democracy Act (PODA), a comprehensive package of reforms to prevent presidential abuses of power and to restore our Constitutional system of checks and balances.**



## Her legislation passed the House:

- ✓ **The Courthouse Ethics and Transparency Act, which will ensure that federal judges face the same financial transaction disclosure requirements as members of the legislative and executive branches of government.**
- ✓ **Rep. Ross' amendments that will strengthen protections for poll workers and prohibit illegitimate White House NDAs.**



**Republicans, you have nothing to fear from voting reform — just look at North Carolina**

BY REP. DEBORAH ROSS (D-N.C.), OPINION CONTRIBUTOR — COURTESY OF OPEN EXT. THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY CONTRIBUTORS ARE THEIR OWN AND NOT THE VIEW OF THE HILL.



# Working for Women

**Congresswoman Ross is a fierce advocate for women's rights. From equal pay to the fundamental right to choose, Rep. Ross has championed these issues in Congress.**

## VAWA

**Congresswoman Ross voted to pass the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2021 (VAWA). VAWA makes vital improvements to programs and laws dealing with gender-based violence, addressing gaps in current law based on extensive consultation with victim service providers, law enforcement, and other experts. The legislation also includes two Ross-led amendments to protect the safety and privacy of survivors and to support the creation of databases detailing where sexual assault nurse examiners are located.**

### Federal bill would support creation of sexual assault nurse databases

*NC congresswoman added amendment to VAWA reauthorization act after reading about lack of information on SANE nurse locations in the state.*

## Paycheck Fairness Act

**Congresswoman Ross cosponsored the Paycheck Fairness Act, legislation that will take steps to end gender-based wage discrimination and ensure equal pay for equal work. Paying women equally would mean a nearly 20% increase in average earnings for working women in North Carolina.**



## WHPA

**Congresswoman Ross is a champion of the Women's Health Protection Act, legislation to enshrine into law women's reproductive freedom and access to reproductive health care. Following Texas' enactment of the nation's most restrictive abortion ban, this landmark legislation safeguards the right to access abortion care free from political interference.**

wralSPORTSfan

**Rep. Deborah Ross leads group of 41 U.S. House members urging NWSL to address systemic harassment**

# *Delivering Investments in North Carolina's Infrastructure*

Wake County is one of the fastest growing counties in the U.S., but our infrastructure has not grown with our community. That's why Rep. Ross was proud to vote for the historic Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. This once-in-a-generation package will fund transportation improvements so that our people can get to work, have access to safe drinking water, utilize high-speed broadband and more.

## **The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act**

### **Roads, Bridges, and Major Projects**

invests \$110 billion in new funds for roads, bridges, and major projects. In North Carolina, 1,460, or 7.8 percent, of the 18,749 bridges are classified as structurally deficient.

### **Airports, Ports, and Waterways**

invests \$17 billion in port infrastructure and \$25 billion in airports to address repair and maintenance backlogs and reduce congestion and emissions near ports and airports.

### **Clean Drinking Water**

invests \$55 billion, representing the largest investment in clean drinking water in American history, including dedicated funding to replace lead service lines and address harmful PFAS contamination.

### **EV Infrastructure**

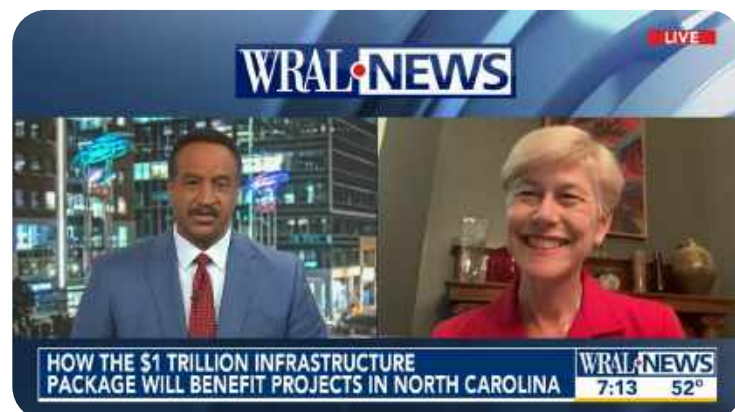
invests \$7.5 billion to build out the first-ever national network of electric vehicle chargers in the United States.

### **High-Speed Internet**

invests \$65 billion in high-speed internet to ensure our rural communities have access to broadband.



"Once-in-a-generation" legislation: NC officials hail passage of infrastructure bill



# *Passing the Build Back Better Act for Wake County*

In December, the House passed the historic Build Back Better Act, legislation that will deliver affordable health care, child care, and home care; expand affordable housing and education; and launch the most significant effort to combat the climate crisis in American history. Congresswoman Ross fought hard for provisions that will lower high-costs for North Carolina families and support workers and the next generation. She will keep fighting to get this legislation across the finish line.

## **Addressing Climate Change & Creating Jobs**

*making historic investments to combat climate change while creating good-paying clean energy jobs*

## **Universal Pre-K & Affordable Child Care**

*ensuring every three- and four-year old has access to publicly funded pre-K and that no working family spends more than 7% of their income on child care*

## **Closing the Medicaid Coverage Gap**

*providing coverage to 212,000 North Carolinians who fell in the Medicaid coverage gap*

## **The Child Tax Credit**

*making the expanded Child Tax Credit permanent and continuing Democrats' progress toward reducing child poverty*





# Leading Locally



WRAL.com

Congresswoman: Infrastructure package 'game-changer' for NC, nation

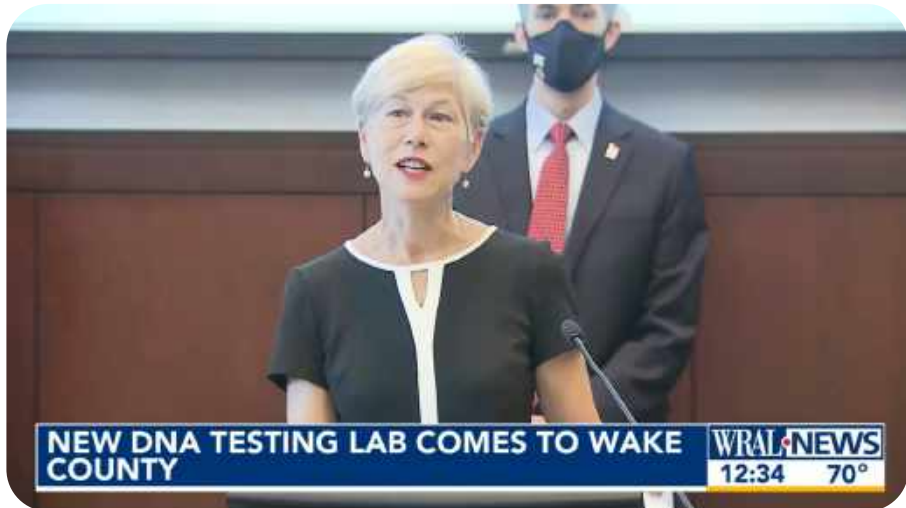


Rep. Deborah Ross among NC elected officials helping build Habitat for Humanity homes in Cary

By Tamara Scott

CBS17.COM LOCAL NEWS THAT MATTERS

In bi-partisan move, Reps. Hudson, Ross plead with EPA to do more about Gen-X in NC



NEW DNA TESTING LAB COMES TO WAKE COUNTY WRAL NEWS 12:34 70°



# Leading Locally



Congresswoman Ross pushes for improvement on Raleigh National Cemetery flooding

By Elaina Athans





# Working For You

**Our office was honored to host events in Wake County throughout the year to help constituents access resources from the federal government, to support our students and workforce, and more.**




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## MOBILE OFFICE HOURS

AT  
**The Eastern Wake Senior Center**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH  
10AM TO 3PM  
323 LAKE DRIVE  
WENDELL, NC 27591

CONGRESSWOMAN ROSS' STAFF WILL BE THERE TO PROVIDE HELP WITH FEDERAL AGENCIES AND ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS

 **IRS**  **VA**  U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

LOCAL IRS AND VA STAFF WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE TO HELP ANSWER QUESTIONS

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## VIRTUAL SERVICE ACADEMY DAY



**Congresswoman Ross to Host Roundtable on Supporting and Diversifying STEM Workforce**




**Congresswoman Ross to Host Congressional Art Competition Exhibit at Artspllosure**






# Contact Me

## In Washington:

**1208 Longworth  
House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515**  
 **(202) 225-3032**

## In Wake County:

**300 Fayetteville Street  
P.O. Box 1548  
Raleigh, NC 27602**  
 **(919) 334-0840**

 **Email me at [Ross.House.Gov/Contact](mailto:Ross.House.Gov/Contact)**

   **@RepDeborahRoss**

