

{audio}files/preroll.mp3;files/Shows/2015/People In Politics/PNP 2015 JULY 18 FINAL SHOW 4650.mp3{/audio} A clash outside a Winston-Salem courtroom this week as opponents and proponents of North Carolina's 2013 election law changes made their cases to the media as the legal wrangling got underway inside. You'll hear comments from the NAACP-led opposition about their view that Republican lawmakers intentionally changed voting laws to try and keep minorities, the elderly, and the poor from voting. That's followed by comments from Hasan Harnett, the first African-American chairman of the N.C. Republican Party, who defends the law and calls out the opposition for what he says is simply political maneuvering with union help. Then host Donna Martinez gets perspective on the legal case from Carolina Journal Managing Editor Rick Henderson. The two also discuss news that yet another state Democrat – Sen. Josh Stein of Wake County – is taking a pass on challenging Sen. Richard Burr for re-election to his U.S. Senate seat. Meantime, fundraising records show Burr is hauling in the cash, as Henderson explains. And finally, Gov. Pat McCrory talks about why the importance of a new mental health task force to providing help to North Carolinians. His comments came at the signing ceremony for an Executive Order.