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On this Christmas holiday weekend, we take a look at North Carolina's political past and at its political future. You'll hear host Donna Martinez' recent conversation with former North Carolina Gov. Jim Martin, the first Republican in our state's history to hold the top job for two terms in a state dominated for many decades by Democrats. Martin tells Martinez about his political rise from a Mecklenburg County commissioner to U.S. Congressman and then to governor. They discuss his legacy, his approach to working with Democrats, and his impact on the rise of the GOP in North Carolina, where many of Martin's deputies now hold top positions in state politics and government. After looking at a key player in the state's political history, Martinez charts the 2016 election cycle with Tom Jensen of the Democratic polling firm Public Policy Polling. Jensen delves into his firm's latest data of North Carolina voters, who give incumbent Gov. Pat McCrory the edge over key Democratic rival Roy Cooper, the sitting Attorney General, in a race being watched by the nation. Jensen also discusses the Democratic Party's effort to unseat Republican U.S. Senator Richard Burr, as well as the unusual race for president in a cycle that is very friendly to

outsiders and very unfriendly to experienced politicians.