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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **CCNCER Hosts Legislative Luncheon in Raleigh**

**Kinston, NC** – Earlier this week, the Chambers of Commerce of North Carolina's Eastern Region (CCNCER) hosted a legislative luncheon in Raleigh with the members of the elected delegation representing eastern North Carolina. In January, CCNCER presented its legislative agenda to the delegation. The agenda focuses on four main areas that are important to the area's business community: exiting military, K-12 education, community colleges, and highways.

In support of these agenda items, the delegation introduced twenty-three pieces of legislation. In addition to legislation that supports various appropriations for the community college system, a bill was introduced in both the House and Senate that would waive the CDL testing requirement for exiting military personnel if certain criteria are met.

Despite the hectic schedule this week in Raleigh, approximately a dozen members of the delegation took a short break to attend the luncheon. Senator A.B. Swindell and

Representative Joe Tolson each provided an update from their respective chamber. Also attending as a featured speaker was Lieutenant Governor Walter Dalton.

Bill Naumann, Chair of CCNCER and Chairman of Hatteras and Cabo Yachts, thanked the legislators for their diligence and hard work during this challenging legislative session and for introducing and or supporting legislation relevant to CCNCER's agenda.

CCNCER's membership includes chamber executives, board members, and business leaders from the community. Current participating chambers include Carteret County Chamber of Commerce, Greenville-Pitt Chamber of Commerce, Havelock Chamber of Commerce, Jacksonville-Onslow Chamber of Commerce, Kinston-Lenoir Chamber of Commerce, New Bern Area Chamber of Commerce, Rocky Mount Area Chamber of Commerce, Tarboro-Edgecombe Chamber of Commerce, Wayne County Chamber of Commerce, and Wilson County Chamber of Commerce. Combined, these chambers represent approximately 7,225 businesses and 172,220 employees.

Membership in CCNCER is open to all chambers in NCER.

NCER is a thirteen-county partnership established by the General Assembly to promote economic development in Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Edgecombe, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Nash, Onslow, Pamlico, Pitt, Wayne, and Wilson Counties. The region encompasses almost 7,000 square miles and approximately one million residents.

For more information on CCNCER, contact Aletha Magyaros, Director of Community and Government Relations, at [Magyaros@nceast.org](mailto:Magyaros@nceast.org) or (252) 522-2400.