



JILL BROWN

FOR HOUSE DISTRICT 19

NC BETTER TOGETHER

Voices to Votes Statement:

I am deeply concerned about the ongoing environmental devastation caused by unchecked overdevelopment. The widespread practice of clear-cutting trees to make way for new developments is not only damaging our local ecosystems but also endangering the long-term sustainability of our water supply and flood control mechanisms. Corporate builders are filling our floodplains and wetlands to create even more mass communities without the infrastructure to support them.

These practices are destroying habitats, contributing to the loss of native flora and fauna, and significantly reducing the capacity of our environment to mitigate floods naturally. Building in floodplains exacerbates the risk of flooding, threatening human lives, wildlife, and infrastructure, as well as compromising water quality by reducing the land's ability to absorb and filter rainwater.

Moreover, corporations continue to dump PFAS, Gen X, and other “forever chemicals” into the waterways from which we draw our drinking water. The effect these contaminants have are causing a public health crisis. We are now considered a cancer hot spot. We have sadly achieved the rank of MOST TOXIC WATER in the COUNTRY! The combined effects of deforestation, poor land-use planning, and pollution pose a significant threat not only to the environment but also to the well-being and health of the families in our communities. We all depend on clean air, water, and healthy ecosystems to sustain our way of life.

We must urgently demand stricter regulations to prevent reckless development and hold corporations accountable for their environmental impact. We need someone to represent the needs of our community in Raleigh. Someone who will fight for the implementation of restrictions on corporate dumping. A representative who will protect wetlands, and prioritize sustainable development practices, and appropriate funding for infrastructure investment. These costs are currently being passed onto the taxpayer while builders are raking in record profits.

Due to pressure from the North Carolina Home Builders Association and the Chamber of Commerce, current representation has refused to update building codes to national standards. Because of this failure, our communities have soaring homeowner's insurance rates and possibly face un-insurability. Additionally, FEMA funds can be denied due to substandard building codes which will devastate families affected by the increasing flood events that we are experiencing.

I will work to update building codes to meet national standards ensuring that homes are safe for families. I will collaborate to develop ways that will slow development allowing infrastructure to catch up. I will be dedicated to funding investment in infrastructure and push to have corporate builder contribute their fair share. I will strive to block polluters from endangering your health and ensure the water that you rely on is clean and safe.

We must protect our coastal communities and safeguard the health of our residents, our state, and our planet for future generations. Addressing these dangers requires dedication to the people not to a party. I commit to working toward protecting the communities that we all share.

Jill Brown



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