



## **SALES TAX REDISTRIBUTION IN SENATE BUDGET – June 2015**

The Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce recently came out in opposition to SB369 as well as any other legislation that may be introduced that would impact and change the way the sales tax distribution is currently handled.

Recently the NC Senate attached the redistribution of sales tax to the budget bill they are sending to the House. The 3<sup>rd</sup> vote in the Senate on this budget is expected soon.

The Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce asks you as constituents and citizens of Dare and Currituck County to contact our senator, Senator Bill Cook and voice your concerns with this redistribution of sales tax dollars. Included is a letter you can send directly to Senator Cook by utilizing this votervoice advocacy software platform. Please help us get the message to Raleigh, sales tax redistribution would be devastating to not only our area, but to the state of North Carolina.

## **CHAMBER RESPONSE AND SUGGESTED RESPONSE FOR MEMBERS TO SEND TO ELECTED OFFICIALS**

I am writing to respectfully request you vote NO today during the 3rd vote on the Senate budget. This budget contains sales tax redistribution language that will devastate the economic integrity of Dare and Currituck Counties; it will also have significant negative financial impacts on your constituents who live in our neighboring counties who work in Dare and Currituck Counties.

This proposed sales tax redistribution will threaten the county's and town's ability to serve our seasonal population. If this sales tax redistribution occurs our calculations indicate that local governments would be forced to either implement unprecedented ad valorem tax increases that would cripple some of our working poor who are already struggling to maintain their homes or services would have to be cut, many of which enable us to offer a safe and enjoyable family vacation destination. If you are not concerned about the impact of how this affects the residents, visitors and employees in Dare and Currituck Counties then at least be aware of the potential impact that this legislation could have on the area's tourism. If we cannot provide the level of services we currently provide for our visitors, our tourism will suffer and the state revenue will also be negatively affected.

In conclusion, the sales tax redistribution is not good for your constituents or your communities. I urge you to vote "No" today on the senate budget.