



North Carolina General Assembly
Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations

July 16, 2026

sent via email

Secretary Leslie Cooley Dismukes
NC Department of Adult Correction
214 West Jones St.
Raleigh, NC 27603

Dear Secretary Dismukes:

The Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations Subcommittee on Prisons requests your appearance to testify July 27, 2026, at 1:00 pm in the Legislative Building Auditorium.

In your role as Secretary of the Department of Adult Correction, you are uniquely qualified to discuss the 2021 *NC NCAACP v. Cooper* settlement and prison operations in North Carolina.

Please prepare a 10-minute presentation on prison population variation since the 2011 Justice Reinvestment Act, the effect of Covid-era policies on prison entries and exits, the methods used to release offenders since March 2020 (e.g., Extended Limits of Confinement, Emergency Medical Release, Post-Release Supervision, Mutual Agreement Parole Program), and the roles that various prison staff, Post-Release Supervision and Parole Commission members, and other parties play in decisions to release any individual offender or group of offenders. Also, please be prepared to discuss other topics related to prison operations as appropriate.

Please read this letter carefully to ensure that you comply with all hearing requirements and that you understand your rights as a witness.

Each witness who is to appear before the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations must file with Commission Staff a written statement of proposed testimony. This must be filed by 1:00 pm four business days before your appearance. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the exclusion of your written testimony from the hearing record, the barring of your oral presentation of the testimony, or both. Witnesses at hearings may be accompanied by their own counsel to advise them concerning their constitutional rights but accompanying counsel shall not directly respond to questions. We reserve the right to place any witness under oath. Finally, witnesses may obtain a transcript copy of their testimony given in open, public session, or in a closed session only when authorized by the Commission.

To fully prepare for this hearing, your written testimony or slide deck must be submitted electronically to NCGAGovOps@ncleg.gov in Microsoft Word (docx), PowerPoint (pptx), or Adobe Acrobat (pdf) format no later than 1:00 pm July 21, 2026. If you plan to use slides in the hearing, please provide them in pptx.



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Accommodations for individuals with disabilities, including assistive listening systems, interpreters, and materials in alternate formats, may be arranged by contacting Commission Staff in advance of the hearing.

Should you or your staff have any questions or need additional information, please contact Haley Phillips (haley.phillips@ncleg.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Buck Newton".

Sen. Buck Newton
Co-Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brenden Jones".

Rep. Brenden Jones
Co-Chair