

Senator Linda Garrou

State Senator Linda Garrou is serving her sixth term in the North Carolina Senate representing the people of Forsyth County. A former high school teacher and advocate for children in the court system, Garrou is the lead chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, which oversees the Senate's work on North Carolina's budget each year.



During her tenure on the Senate Appropriations process, North Carolina has made key investments to improve Forsyth County as well as North Carolina. These investments include:

- Calling for a special session during the last Hunt administration to protect Reynolds Tobacco from litigation that could have bankrupted the company – and eliminated hundreds of jobs in Forsyth County.
- Provided key leadership to bring the Dell Company to the Triad, resulting in hundreds of good paying jobs and millions of dollars in economic development.
- Funding for The Design Center, a joint project of WSSU, the NC School of the Arts and Forsyth Tech.
- Providing funding for transportation and other infrastructure for the Piedmont Research Park.

In addition, Garrou's work has also helped make a statewide impact. While she has helped lead the appropriations process, North Carolina has

- Raised teacher pay and funding for enrollment increases, among other critical K-12 programs.
- Supported financial aid and enrollment increases at North Carolina's universities
- Approved of a \$3.1 billion bond measure for the UNC system
- Provided full funding for the state's Clean Water Management Trust Fund – the largest source of conservation funding in North Carolina.
- Invested in key social and health and human services, including funding for hospitals, child care and health insurance for children of working families, among many others; and
- Funded key infrastructure and economic development to attract quality employers and good-paying jobs to the Triad and North Carolina.

First elected to the Senate in 1998, Garrou is the former Regional Administrator with the Guardian ad Litem program, which protects the interests of children in the court system. She is also the founding President of the North Carolina Child Advocacy Institute. Garrou has served on the Forsyth County Juvenile Justice Council, and the Governor's Advocacy Council on Children and Youth.

Garrou's service in the General Assembly has brought her considerable recognition. She is the recipient of Duke Power's Citizenship and Service Award. She has also received recognition from the NC Child Advocacy Institute for outstanding public service, and was presented with the Women of Achievement award by the General Federation of Women's Clubs of NC. In 2006, Garrou was named one of the most influential people in the region by the Triad Business Journal for the second year in a row, and received recognition for Outstanding Service in Legislating Public Policy by the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Winston-Salem Alumnae Chapter.

Garrou holds a Masters of Arts in Teaching from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education from the University of Georgia. She and her husband, John Garrou have lived in Winston-Salem since 1967. They have two adult daughters, Margaret Garrou and Eleanor Garrou Rubin – and two grandchildren.

Legislative Committees: *Chair* - Appropriations/Base Budget, *Vice Chair* - Pensions & Retirement and Aging, Member of - Commerce; Education/Higher Education; Finance and the Select Committee on Employee Hospital and Medical Benefits

Legislative Study Commissions: *Co-Chair* - Economic Development Infrastructure Study Commission, Government Performance Audit Joint Select Committee, Health Care Workforce, Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, (*Co-Chair*: Joint Statewide/Capital/General Government Subcommittee), Legislative Study Commission on State Personnel Status, Senate Select Committee on the UNC Board of Governors, State Board of Educations' Business and Education Technology Alliance, State Disability Income Plan and Other Related Plans