



May 29, 2014

Dear Speaker Tillis,

North Carolina voters deserve a full and fair opportunity to understand the differences in our records and vision, and it is my hope that we can work out a public debate schedule worthy of the people of our great state. When I ran for the Senate in 2008, my opponent was unwilling to debate publicly, and I feel now as I did then that voters deserve an honest discussion of the issues that matter.

In that spirit, I have accepted the debate offer from the North Carolina Association of Broadcasters Educational Foundation, and I urge you to do the same. The Broadcasters Foundation has hosted many successful debates in statewide races over the years, and their proven track record makes them an appropriate first venue to debate. Once this debate has been finalized, I look forward to setting a productive and mutually agreed upon public debate schedule with mainstream media partners and moderators with ties to North Carolina.

In order to most effectively determine that schedule, I have appointed Jim Phillips as my campaign's lead debate liaison to help coordinate logistics with your campaign and others as well as the outlets and organizations offering debates. Jim held a similar position negotiating the debate terms for Erskine Bowles. We will be in touch soon to begin discussions.

I know I am not alone in expressing my hope that this election will be one marked by a civil exchange of ideas. Spirited public debates are an important opportunity to promote that exchange and provide voters a chance to understand the stark contrast before them this year. The people of North Carolina deserve no less.

I look forward to setting the details of this and future debates.

Sincerely,

Senator Kay R. Hagan