

# **HAMPTON DELLINGER AND WALTER DALTON**

## **MAJOR DIFFERENCES ON MAJOR ISSUES**

**Death Penalty Reform** Hampton Dellinger believes the death penalty for those with demonstrated mental retardation is wrong. Mr. Dalton voted against the landmark legislation that banned the execution of defendants with IQs of 70 or below. (*Vote on Senate Bill 173, 4/23/2001*) The vote was 31-18. Mr. Dalton was in the minority of all Senators, and was one of only eight Democrats to oppose the ban.

**Choice (Roe v. Wade)** Hampton Dellinger is pro-choice, and unequivocally supports the principles of *Roe v. Wade*. Mr. Dalton has taken the position that “[a]bortions should be legal only within the first trimester of pregnancy”, adding that “I would not criminalize abortion during the first trimester or if rape, incest or life of the mother was involved.” (*Candidate questionnaire response available for review at [www.HD08.com/differences](http://www.HD08.com/differences)*) By refusing to recognize an overriding woman’s health exception throughout pregnancy and by denying except in the narrowest of circumstances any reproductive rights after the first trimester, Mr. Dalton’s position is more restrictive than current North Carolina law and rejects essential elements of *Roe v. Wade*.

**Choice (clinic access)** Hampton Dellinger also supports “buffer zones,” which permit a health clinic to ban picketers from a small access area in order to protect entering patients. Mr. Dalton has refused to “[s]upport ‘buffer zones’ by requiring demonstrators to stay at least 15 feet away from abortion clinic doorways and driveways.” (*Candidate questionnaire*)

**Affirmative Action** Because discrimination in North Carolina is a historical fact, a grim legacy, and a disturbing reality, Hampton Dellinger believes targeted affirmative measures continue to be a necessary part of ensuring fairness and diversity in our workforce, public contracting, and higher education. Mr. Dalton does not support the idea that “state government agencies should take race and sex into account” in any circumstance. (*Candidate questionnaire*) His position is more restrictive than current state law and rulings of the U.S. Supreme Court.

**Environment** Hampton Dellinger supports North Carolina’s Clean Smokestacks Act. In 2001, Mr. Dalton was one of only two Democrats to vote against the Clean Smokestacks Act, which passed 43-5. (*Vote on Senate Bill 1078, 4/23/2001*) In 2001, the Conservation Council of North Carolina (CCNC) gave Mr. Dalton a 29% rating, which matched the lowest grade for any senator, Democratic or Republican. Mr. Dalton’s CCNC rating was below the Democratic average in 2001-02, 2003-04, and 2005-06.

Hampton Dellinger believes the Utilities Commission’s decision to deny a permit for multiple coal-based plants was correct. Mr. Dalton has been a leading supporter of the plan to build two new coal-fired generating units in North Carolina, publicly testifying in favor of such a plan in August 2006. (*Associated Press, 8/31/2006*)

**Tax Breaks** Hampton Dellinger opposes a major new tax break for homebuilders. Mr. Dalton has led the effort for such a windfall. Raleigh’s *News & Observer* described Mr. Dalton’s plan this way: “State Sen. Walter Dalton’s proposal to give home builders a nice chunk of taxpayers’ money is one of those classic exercises in Jones Street water-carrying. Dalton...ought to be embarrassed.” (“*A Costly ‘Break,’*” 7/26/2005)

**Education Funding** Hampton Dellinger has supported full education funding even in tough budget times. In 2001, Mr. Dalton was willing to accept substantial cuts in the state education budget, reductions that would have run in the hundreds of millions of dollars. (*Raleigh’s News & Observer, “Legislators ask for cuts in education,” 4/20/2001*)