

# Popular Government

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## Cover Article

### 30 Voter-Owned Elections in North Carolina: Public Financing of Campaigns

*Philip G. Rogers, Carl W. Stenberg, and Sarah J. Waterman*

Remember that check-off choice on your federal and state income tax forms: *Do you want to contribute x dollars to a public fund to finance political campaigns?* Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ What are the pros of public financing? What are the cons? What is the future for public financing of campaigns in North Carolina?



## Feature Articles

### 4 A Revolution in Responsibilities of North Carolina Governments

*Michael L. Walden*

Five legislative acts of recent years affect the responsibilities and the finances of North Carolina counties and the state. An economics professor examines the ramifications for county budgets and transportation choices.

### 16 Using Economic Development Incentives: For Better or for Worse

*Jonathan Q. Morgan*

States and localities that aggressively use incentives in the “job wars” may win big—but at what cost and toward what end? Does a government give more than it gets in recruiting businesses? *Popular Government* offers a practical assessment of the pros and the cons of common incentives.



### 43 Ten Common Misconceptions about Eminent Domain

*Charles A. Szypszak*

Is eminent domain a newly created power? May governments unilaterally decide what to pay for property that they take by eminent domain? The answers to these and related questions may be surprising to people who have no experience with this governmental power.

## Departments

### 2 NC Journal

School Faces Budget Challenges • School Prepares Issue Papers for Perdue’s Transition Groups • New Online Resource Available for LME Board Members • School Hosts Webinar on New Neighborhood Stabilization Program • Local Government Supports Better Coordination among Nonprofits • Clerks’ Institute Marks Thirty Years

### 46 At the School

School Faculty Train 82nd Airborne Division in Local Government • Hunt and Joyner Honored • Media Design Studio Increases Teaching and Learning Options • Registers of Deeds Honor Szypszak



ON THE COVER: *Will the campaigns behind the buttons soon draw more from public monies than from private donations? North Carolina has been experimenting with a public finance option for some judicial and statewide administrative offices. Cover art courtesy of Lew Powell Memorabilia, North Carolina Collection, Wilson Special Collections Library.*