

MEMO

TO: Interested Parties
FR: Human Rights Campaign
DT: July 7, 2016 (Updated: May 24, 2017)
RE: The cost of North Carolina HB2 / HB142

Total estimated cost:

- An estimated combined cost of at least **\$886.4 million** (money spent to pass HB2 + commerce loss + money spent to fight HB2 + money devoted to bringing business back to North Carolina)
- An estimated combined future cost of at least **\$4.2 billion** (money spent to pass HB2 + commerce loss + money spent to fight HB2 + money devoted to bringing business back to North Carolina + potential future losses)

Money spent to pass HB2:

- *The News & Observer* reported that the special session to pass HB2 cost **\$42,000** in taxpayer funding. [[The News & Observer](#), March 21, 2016]

Commerce loss:

- *WRAL* reports that Raleigh could lose as much as **\$7.6 million** in canceled convention gatherings, and an additional **\$32.6 million** in surrounding business loss. [[WRAL](#), June 6, 2016]
- *NBC News* cites HRC figures from the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce that the Charlotte Area has lost **\$285 million** in commerce. [[NBC News](#), June 6, 2016]
- Penny Rich, County Commissioner for Orange County, wrote for *Chapelboro* that the county has lost roughly **\$460,000** in economic loss. [[Chapelboro](#), July 11, 2016]
- *Wired* reported that North Carolina's lost **\$58.3 million** when PayPal and an additional tech company canceled their planned expansions to North Carolina [[Wired](#), September 18, 2016]
- *Wired* reported that North Carolina lost **\$106 million** in revenue when the NBA pulled the All-Star Game from Charlotte [[Wired](#), September 18, 2016]
- *Wired* reported that North Carolina lost **\$91.4 million** in revenue when the NCAA and ACC pulled championship games from the state [[Wired](#), September 18, 2016]
- *Forbes* estimated that the state lost **\$5 million** when Google Ventures announced that they will not invest in North Carolina companies over HB2. [[Forbes](#), November 3, 2016]
- *Forbes* reported that the state lost **\$21 million** when Deutsche Bank halted plans to expand their Cary headquarters because of HB2. [[Forbes](#), November 3, 2016]
- The Greensboro Coliseum Complex claims they have lost **\$23.5 million** in revenue from various championships and conventions because of HB2. [[The Washington Post](#), March 12, 2017]
- *The Associated Press* reports that Fayetteville lost **\$36,000** when the Lutheran Financial Managers Convention opted to take their convention elsewhere. [[The Associated Press](#), March 27, 2017]
- Seven hundred part-time workers at Raleigh's PNC Arena lost at least **\$130,000** in wages because of cancellations by Pearl Jam, Cirque Du Soleil and others. [[The Associated Press](#), March 27, 2017]
- *The Associated Press* reported that real estate firm CoStar cited HB2 as a reason to not expand to Charlotte. The move cost the city **\$250 million** in economic impact. [[The Associated Press](#), March 27, 2017]

- When the San Francisco Symphony cancelled two concerts in Chapel Hill, the town and surrounding area lost **\$325,000**. [[The Associated Press](#), March 27, 2017]

Money spent to fight HB2:

- *The Associated Press* reports that the North Carolina General Assembly set aside **\$500,000** in funds diverted from the state's disaster relief fund. [[The Associated Press](#), July 1, 2016]
- The North Carolina General Assembly spent an estimated **\$84,000** in taxpayer funding to hold a special session where the discussed, but did not act to repeal the bill.
- *BuzzFeed* discovered through a record request that North Carolina paid **\$690,151** for three private law firms to handle litigation over HB2. [[BuzzFeed](#), May 24, 2017]

Money devoted to bringing business back to North Carolina:

- *The News & Observer* reports that NC State Rep. Darren Jackson proposed a provision to the North Carolina House budget that would repeal HB2 and set aside \$2 million to restore the state's reputation. The provision **failed**. [[The News & Observer](#), May 19, 2016]
- *Indy Week* reports that McCrory spent nearly **\$7,500** in state money flying to TV appearances to defend HB2 [[Indy Week](#), July 11, 2016]
- **\$3.75 million** in additional marketing allocations in the NC budget

Potential future losses:

- The Greensboro Coliseum Complex predicts that it could lose up to **\$118 million** if the NCAA decides to move its tournaments and events out of North Carolina through 2022 because of the state's discriminatory HB2. [[The Washington Post](#), March 12, 2017]
- *The Associated Press* reported that North Carolina's economy will lose at least **\$2.66 billion** by 2028 because of PayPal's cancelled plans to expand into the state [[The Associated Press](#), March 27, 2017]
- The same analysis of the Deutsche Bank project estimated a total impact of about **\$543 million** by the end of 2027. [[The Associated Press](#), March 27, 2017]

Other total cost estimations:

- *The Associated Press* reports that HB2 will cost the state more than **\$3.76 billion** over the next 12 years. [[The Associated Press](#), March 27, 2017]