



# Les Merritt, CPA

## State Auditor of North Carolina

Dear Bob:

Having seen your energy, effort and enthusiasm on the campaign trail, I am writing to offer my full support of your campaign for Attorney General of North Carolina in 2008. In making this endorsement, I am pleased to join my fellow Council of State members, Commissioner Cherie Berry and Commissioner Steve Troxler, in supporting you.

We are fortunate to have a candidate like you who understands that the old ways of campaigning too often come up short on Election Day. You have made an unprecedented commitment to win the GOP nomination for Attorney General and to take a positive, winning message to the voters of North Carolina.

As you well know, I work every day to serve as the watchdog for State government by providing citizens, legislators, and government officials with professional, independent evaluations of the State's financial records and public program performance. However, I cannot do this job alone, and our State must have the services of an Attorney General who can monitor and lead our Department of Justice with unflinching integrity and utmost diligence. Bob, you are the candidate we need for this important job, and I am pleased offer you my unqualified support.

It is vital for our Party – and ultimately for every voter – to assemble the strongest possible ticket for Council of State officers. As Republican leaders, we must provide leadership at this high level, to serve as a check against the tired, old, business-as-usual Raleigh ways that have run their course *unchecked* for more than a century. Bob, you can and you will make an immediate impact for North Carolinians when you join Commissioner Berry, Commissioner Troxler and me on the Council of State. Often unseen, but vitally important, the Council of State exercises tremendous authority on behalf of all citizens, and you are needed there.

November 4, 2008, seems far away to some. To those seeking to serve our State, we have only about 700 left days to persuade *millions* of North Carolina voters that we offer the strength of character and the stability of leadership needed to provide the security, prosperity and a way of life that uplifts all our citizens. I know you have the ability to meet the challenges of the campaign *and* the skills to make a great Attorney General.

I am personally pleased to join forces with you and your campaign. The stakes are high, so let's recommit ourselves to the task of winning together in 2008.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Les Merritt".

Les Merritt