

{audio}files/preroll.mp3;files/Shows/2015/People In Politics/PNP 2015 APRIL 4 FINAL SHOW 4650.mp3{/audio} In an April Fool's political stunt, the state Republican Party announced that Democratic Attorney General Roy Cooper had announced his run for governor. Host Donna Martinez talks with Carolina Journal Managing Editor Rick Henderson about the news release issued April 1 by the GOP, using the URL, roycooperforgovernor.com. The news release came in response to Cooper's attack on Gov. Pat McCrory and legislative Republicans via an ad on Cooper's personal Facebook page. Henderson analyzes the political dynamic of a sitting attorney general who has all but declared his candidacy for governor. Then we turn to the political debate over religious freedom. As legislators consider the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, both sides have engaged in an emotional debate over the intersection of religion, politics, and culture. Martinez looks at both sides of the issue. First, Tami Fitzgerald of the N.C. Values Coalition discusses the bill, followed by comments from N.C. House Speaker Tim Moore, and edited remarks from Christopher Sgro of Equality North Carolina. That's followed by a look at new polling data from High Point University. People in Politics Special Correspondent Bruce Ferrell talks with Martin Kifer about approval ratings for the president, the governor, and North Carolina's two U.S. senators. And finally, we hear from Democratic political strategist Brad Crone about the state of the Democratic Party and what he expects from the General Assembly this session.