

# Abstaining from Voting



N.C.G.S. 153A-44, Members Excused from Voting.

It is the duty of each member to vote unless excused by a majority vote according to law.

The board may excuse a member from voting, but only upon questions involving the member's own financial interest or official conduct or on matters on which the member is prohibited from voting under G.S. 14-234 or G.S. 160D-109. For purposes of this section, the question of the compensation and allowances of members of the board does not involve a member's own financial interest or official conduct., in substance, provides that "The Board may excuse a member from voting, but only upon questions involving his own financial interests or his official conduct."

A member of the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners that recognizes ~~COMMENT: It is appropriate for a member of the Board to be excused where that member recognizes a conflict or potential conflict~~ of interest between his own interest and the interest of the County on any matter being discussed and/or requiring action by the Board, shall request to be excused from participating in the discussion and voting on the matter. The request to be excused shall be made in the form of a motion. ~~It is suggested that, if in doubt, the member should be excused. It is suggested that the language might be interpreted as requiring that the other members of the Board formally excuse the member from voting by motion. The language quoted would seem to imply that the act of excusing is one which must be made by the Board itself.~~

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**ADOPTED:** May 16, 1977

**LAST REVISED:** ~~N/A~~ August 7, 2024

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