Washington, DC - *U.S.* ***Rep. Brad Miller (NC-13)*** *released the following statement today in response to the House passage of the Budget Reconciliation Act conference report. The bill passed on a near party-line vote, 216-214. Miller voted against the measure:*

"Last night the President spoke with mist in his eyes about a 'hopeful society' that helps its citizens 'in times of suffering and emergency.'

"Today, House Republicans cut some of the last frayed strands of the safety net that President Reagan promised a generation ago would always be there.

"The bill slashes Medicaid, Medicare, student loans, health care for low-income kids and child-care support -- the very programs that the most vulnerable among us turn to in times of suffering and emergency.

"The President's words last night ring hollow in the face of today's vote."