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Jyrita Moore (Sen. Joyce Waddell) [Waddelljla@ncleg.net]

Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 8:38 AM

Senator Joyce Waddell's October 11, 2017, Newsletter

**Senator Joyce Waddell**  
 NC Senate  
 1113 Legislative Building  
 16 West Jones Street  
 Raleigh, NC 27601-2808

*Serving District 40*  
*Mecklenburg County*

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## The Waddell Weekly Bulletin

**Vol. 3 Ed. 1**  
**No. 16**

**October 11,**  
**2017**

*Dear Friends:*

On Wednesday, October 4, the General Assembly reconvened for the third time since the long session adjourned in June to discuss judicial redistricting and several bills that Governor Roy Cooper vetoed. Since June, the House Select Committee on Judicial Redistricting has met several times to review [House Bill 717, Judicial Redistricting & Investment Act](#) and revise the District Court, Prosecutorial, and Superior Court district maps. House Bill 717 is the first comprehensive overhaul of these judicial districts in over 50 years. Although the House approved the bill, the Senate will not take up judicial redistricting until next year.

During session, the Senate voted to override Governor Roy Cooper's veto of [House Bill 56, Amend Environmental Laws](#). House Bill 56 amends various environmental laws including provisions regarding the discharge of the chemical known as "GenX" into the Cape Fear River, the plastic bag ban, and solid waste modifications. Cooper believed that the legislation would be detrimental to the environment. All the Senate Democrats voted to sustain the Governor's veto of this legislation.

The Senate also voted to override Cooper's veto of [Senate Bill 16, Business Regulatory Reform Act of 2017](#). Senate Bill 16 amends several State laws related to State and local government regulation, business regulation, and environmental regulation. The most notable of these amendments is the rollback on local governments' ability to require extra stormwater mitigation efforts at redeveloped properties. Senate Bill 16 would make it harder for state and local governments to protect water quality. All the Senate Democrats voted in support of the Governor's veto of this bill.

*I cannot achieve anything without the support of my constituents. Thank you very much for your continued support!*

Please continue to refer to the North Carolina General Assembly website [www.ncleg.net](http://www.ncleg.net). You will be able to track legislation, sign up for committee notices, and review the citizen's guide.

I encourage you to contact us with your thoughts, comments, or suggestions. Please feel free to have others join in on conversation by sending contact information to [Joyce.Waddell@ncleg.net](mailto:Joyce.Waddell@ncleg.net).

*I look forward to hearing from you!*

# Legislative Update

- [\*\*Amend Environmental Laws \(House Bill 56/ S.L. 2017-209\)\*\*](#) – This legislation amends various environmental laws. It appropriates \$435,000 to help Wilmington-area utilities and the University of North Carolina at Wilmington to identify and quantify GenX and measure the concentration of the chemicals in the sediments of the Cape Fear River. Additionally, this bill repeals the prohibition on providing customers with plastic bags and limits local governments' authority to enact ordinances concerning landfills and solid waste management. I supported Governor Roy Cooper's veto of this bill because this legislation could potentially do more harm than good. More funding is necessary to address the risk Genx poses to human health and local ecosystems. The House and Senate overrode the Governor's veto on October 4. House Bill 56 is now law.
- [\*\*Business Regulatory Reform Act of 2017 \(Senate Bill 16/ S.L. 2017-211\)\*\*](#) – Senate Bill 16 provides that when a preexisting development is redeveloped, increased stormwater controls may only be required for the amount of impervious surface being created that exceeds the amount of impervious surface that existed before redevelopment. This legislation loosens water quality rules and imposes limitations on local governments' power over landfill permits. I supported Governor Roy Cooper's veto of this bill, agreeing that we should not make it harder for state and local governments to protect water quality. The Senate and House overrode the Governor's veto on October 5. Senate Bill 16 is now law.
- [\*\*Further Modifications to Appointments \(Senate Bill 694\)\*\*](#) – Senate Bill 694 is an act to appoint persons to various public offices upon the recommendation of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, Phil Berger, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Tim Moore. The bill also makes further modifications to appointments made in the 2017 appointments bills. I voted against the passage of this bill. Senate Bill 694 passed the Senate and the House. It currently awaits the Governor's signature or veto.
- [\*\*Budget & Agency Technical Corrections \(Senate Bill 582\)\*\*](#) – This legislation includes provisions which allow state money to be used to pay for permits for a piece of private property, extend the film grant program indefinitely, change the laws governing misdemeanor impaired driving changes, and prevents the attorney general from seeking outside legal help on appeals. This bill passed both the House and Senate. Governor Cooper signed the bill into law on October 8.
- [\*\*Electoral Freedom Act of 2017 \(Senate Bill 656\)\*\*](#) – Senate Bill 656 does away with primary elections for all judicial candidates in North Carolina and eases ballot access requirements for third parties as well as candidates. It also lowers the threshold for a primary candidate to win his or her party's nomination to 30 percent of the primary vote. Senate Bill 656 was introduced and passed in order to facilitate House Bill 717 and judicial redistricting. I voted against the passage of this bill. This bill passed both the House and Senate largely along party lines. Governor Cooper vetoed Senate Bill 656 on October 9.

**At the General Assembly**



Senator Joyce Waddell leads the Senate Chamber in prayer at Session.

October 5, 2017

**In Washington D.C.**



Senator Joyce Waddell addresses a Congressional Black Caucus Committee concerning reparations at the Annual Legislative Conference in Washington D.C.

September 22, 2017

## In Charlotte



Senator Joyce Waddell welcomes Dr. Fatma Mili, Dean of the College of Computing and Informatics at UNC Charlotte.

September 18, 2017





Senator Joyce Waddell gives a legislative update at the Democratic Women of Mecklenburg County's meeting.

September 13, 2017



Governor Roy Cooper delivered supplies to Shamrock Gardens Elementary School.  
Governor Cooper and Senator Joyce Waddell listened to the concerns of teachers and students.


September 13, 2017



Senator Joyce Waddell along with Rep. Chaz Beazley, Rep. John Autry, Rep. Mary Belk, and Governor Roy Cooper visited students at Shamrock Gardens Elementary School.

September 13, 2017

## **The County News**

From the desk of Senator Joyce Waddell 

# Annual School Supply Drive

CHARLOTTE, NC – In early August, Governor Roy Cooper announced the kickoff of the Governor's School Supply Drive. From August 14 to September 8, the School Supply Drive helped to address unmet classrooms needs in North Carolina public schools. State Employees Credit Union branches, state government offices, and businesses across North Carolina collected school supplies that teachers and students are in need of throughout the school year. Cooper felt that this initiative was necessary since state funding for school supplies continue to be cut in half, and his budget proposal which called for a \$150 annual supply stipend for public school teachers was not passed. Many teachers spend roughly \$500 of their own money for their classrooms each year.

On September 11, Cooper and Senator Joyce Waddell paid a visit to Charlotte-Mecklenburg School

District's Shamrock Gardens Elementary School. Cooper brought a box full of school supplies and used the day as an opportunity to show how great the need is for supplies in North Carolina public school classrooms. Waddell listened to the concerns of teachers and students.

"I wholeheartedly support Governor Roy Cooper's effort to shed light on this problem. It is unfortunate that Governor Cooper's \$150 annual supply stipend for public school teachers was not included in the final state budget. I think the General Assembly should make a greater effort to do more for the North Carolina public school system and its teachers," said Senator Waddell.



Waddell

*Senator Waddell's office is open Monday through Friday during Session. You may reach her office by calling her Legislative Assistant, Jyrta Moore, at 919-733-5650 or by email at [waddelljla@ncleg.net](mailto:waddelljla@ncleg.net).*

*All committee meetings and press conferences can be heard on the General Assembly's website at [www.ncleg.net](http://www.ncleg.net). Once on the site, select "**Audio**" and then make your selection: House Chamber; Senate Chamber; Committee Room or Press Conference Room. A schedule of committee meetings and other events is also available on the website.*

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