



Mail



Calendar



Contacts



Email Settings



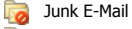
Deleted Items (10)



Drafts [5]



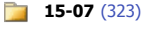
Inbox



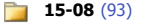
Junk E-Mail



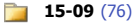
Sent Items

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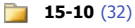
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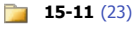
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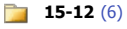
15-09 (76)



15-10 (32)



15-11 (23)



15-12 (6)

[Manage Folders...](#)**Senator Joyce Waddell's December 7, 2015 Newsletter**

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

Sent: Monday, December 07, 2015 9:01 AM

Senator Joyce Waddell's December 7, 2015 Newsletter

**Senator Joyce Waddell**

NC Senate

300 N Salisbury Rd, Suite 515  
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925*Serving District 40 and  
Mecklenburg County***Committees**Appropriations on Education/  
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Pensions & Retirement and Aging  
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Development

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**The Waddell  
Weekly Bulletin**

Vol. I Ed. 20

December 7,  
2015**Dear Friends:**

As we approach the holiday season, I have more time to engage and interact with my constituents. The opportunities to discuss their many concerns and opinions about legislation have been quite enlightening. One of the main topics in conversation is the lack of focus on the energy and environment sector at the General Assembly.

In the past five years, the regulations that businesses face have decreased annually. The coal ash spills have been a blemish on North Carolina's environmental record, and the lack of response remains troubling. The GOP relented on the punishment for the contamination of North Carolina's ground water. We must not allow this to become a precedent for our response to businesses.

During the session, the House presented and the GOP passed House Bill 405, the infamous "ag-gag" bill; this policy will now criminalize the act of whistle-blowing in the workplace. If a company violates any of the environmental protections that have been enacted, an employee that would responsibly report these violations would now be committing a criminal act. This bill was ratified even after the Governor made the right decision to veto this bill. The GOP overturned the veto in the House and Senate.

We cannot allow these regressive trends to continue, and in the coming session, I feel that we need to reaffirm our support for the environment in North Carolina. We owe it to our citizens to leave them a state to be proud of; and the policy decisions that have been made cannot do that.

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 in depth 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!

**Session News*****Criminal Laws Effective December 1, 2015***

- [Burt's Law \(Senate Bill 445 / S.L. 2015-36\)](#) – This legislation enhances the protections

for clients of facilities who provide services to treat individuals with mental illness and developmental disabilities. It increases the penalties for a staffer or volunteer who intentionally causes pain or injury to a client and takes a client's personal property. Any employee or volunteer who witnesses and fails to report a sexual offense or physical harm to a client will be penalized. The Division of Social Services, district attorney, or law enforcement must be notified within 24 hours of the incident. I voted in support of this legislation. This bill was signed by the Governor on May 26, 2015, and became effective on December 1, 2015.

- [Regulate the Sale of E-Liquid Containers \(Senate Bill 286 / S.L. 2015-141\)](#) – This bill requires all e-liquid containers to have child-resistant packaging after children in other states tragically passed away from consuming the liquid with the traditional screw-off tops. It also prohibits the sale of e-liquid products that contains nicotine unless it is stated on the packages. A person who violates these new regulatory provisions will be charged with a Class A1 misdemeanor. I am a cosponsor of this legislation. This bill was signed by the Governor on July 8, 2015, and became effective on December 1, 2015.
- [Automatic License Plate Readers \(Senate Bill 182 / S.L. 2015-190\)](#) – This regulatory bill aims at the implementation of automatic license plate reader systems by law enforcement agencies in North Carolina. A State or local enforcement agency must adopt a written policy that governs the use of a system before it is operational. Law enforcement agencies are required by law to protect the data gathered by the readers and only preserve this data for ninety days unless requested by an agency. I am a cosponsor of this legislation. This bill was signed by the Governor on August 5, 2015, and became effective on December 1, 2015.
- [Privacy/Protection From Revenge Postings \(House Bill 792 / S.L. 2015-250\)](#) – This legislation creates a criminal offense for the disclosure of private images in the context of a personal relationship. It protects the public from revenge posting online by granting victims the right to sue for damages. I voted in support of this legislation. This bill was signed by the Governor on September 25, 2015, and became effective on December 1, 2015.
- [Stalking by GPS/Criminal Offense \(Senate Bill 238 / S.L. 2015-282\)](#) – This legislation criminalizes the act of installing a GPS device without the consent of the other person. It is illegal to use a GPS or other tracking device to keep track of an adult; however, parents are allowed to use such devices to keep track of their children's locations. By forcibly tracking the location of another person, North Carolina defines this as an act of cyberstalking and considers it a Class 2 misdemeanor. I am a cosponsor of this legislation. This bill was signed on October 22, 2015, and became effective on December 1, 2015.

## **In Charlotte, NC**



Senator Joyce Waddell waves and greets the crowd as she participates in the Novant Health Thanksgiving Day Parade on Thursday, November 26, 2015.



Senator Joyce Waddell honors Senior Pastor C. Don Steger, Ph.D., at his Retirement Celebration on November 20, 2015. She declares a Senatorial Statement highlighting his lasting accomplishments as Pastor of Reeder Memorial Baptist Church.



Senator Joyce Waddell engages and interacts with constituents and members of the Charlotte Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. at the Empowering Action: A Legislative Conversation with the Mecklenburg County Delegation event on Saturday, November 21, 2015. She answers questions and gives a legislative update on issues concerning health care, education, juvenile justice, and violence prevention.

## The County News



Senator Waddell's office is open Monday through Friday during Session. You may reach her office by calling her Legislative Assistant Jyrity 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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