



- [**Raleigh Apodaca Service Dog Retirement Act \(House Bill 550\)**](#) – Named in honor of Senator Tom Apodaca’s late bulldog, Raleigh, this bill proposes that the State or unit of local government can transfer ownership of service animals that are no longer fit for public service work at a price set by that unit of local government or State. The service animals can be transferred to either the officer or employee that held normal custody of the animal during the animal’s term of public service. In the case that the officer or employee is deceased, the animal may either go to a surviving spouse or child of the employee. The animal may also go to any organization that provides care for retired service animals. I voted in support of this legislation. House Bill 550 passed the third reading in the Senate on June 22, 2016, and is currently under review in the House.
- [**Amend Sex Offender Certain Premises \(House Bill 1021\)**](#) – This piece of legislation would modify the certain premises on which sex offenders are permitted in order to address the unconstitutional issues found by the NC Middle District Court ruling in Doe v. Cooper. House Bill 1021 would amend General Statute 14-208.18 to clarify that certain sex offenders would be prohibited from being any place where minors “frequently congregate, including, but not limited to, libraries, arcades, amusement parks, recreation parks, and swimming pools.” Sex offenders would also be prohibited from attending the NC State Fair along with any other local fairgrounds. The bill provides that only certain sex offenders, who are deemed to pose a threat or present danger to minors, are held to the 300 feet rule on distance from persons 18 and under. I voted in support of this bill. House Bill 1021 passed its third reading in the Senate on June 23, 2016, and has been sent to the Governor for his signature into law.
- [**LLC Clarifications & Emp. Invention Ownership \(Senate Bill 482\)**](#) – This bill makes technical changes to the state’s Limited Liability Company Act. Specifically, the bill states that churches, non-profit, and charitable organizations may lawfully convert to LLCs as long as the nature of the business remained religious and charitable. If the nature of the business does change, the funds acquired while the entity was considered a charitable organization would have to be transferred to another nonprofit classified as a 501(c) (3) organization under federal law. An entity may also convert to an LLC so long as the change is permitted by internal affairs and complies with the law. The bill also clarifies that LLCs are not legally permitted to include any provisions for employment in their operating agreement that is contradictory to state law. The final section of the bill states that an employer’s vested ownership in an employee’s invention would not be subject to revocation due to a dispute over compensation or benefits unless the written employment agreement consists of a contrary provision. This legislation passed the third reading in the House on June 23, 2016, and is currently under review in the Senate.
- [**Youth Access to Kratom/ Study Abuse OTC Subs. \(House Bill 747\)**](#) – This bill would regulate the distribution of kratom products to individuals under the age of 18. The penalty for purchasing or receiving kratom products by a minor is a Class 2 misdemeanor. The bill does allow for individuals who were not previously placed on probation for this violation to receive a conditional discharge. The Legislative Research Commission would also be directed to conduct a study on the level of impact that kratom and nitrous oxide “whippets” have on public health. Input would be given by the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, and the Division of Public Health. I voted in support of this legislation. House Bill 747 passed the second reading in the Senate and is now in the House Committee on Rules, Calendar, and Operations.
- [**UNC Self-Liquidating Projects \(Senate Bill 872\)**](#) – This bill purposes \$567,259,571 towards capital improvement projects at six University of North Carolina System institutions. These funds will be provided through a combination of gifts, grants, receipts, repaid debts, Medicare reimbursements for education, and other funds. None of the funding acquired for tuition or appropriated from the General Fund will be used to fund these projects unless they have already been authorized by law. Senate Bill 872 passed the third reading in the Senate on June 23, 2016, and third reading in the House on June 28, 2016. I voted in support of this legislation.

Listed below are the specified funds for the UNC capital improvement projects:

Appalachian State University
Convocation Center Parking Deck \$ 11,250,000

North Carolina Central University
New Student Center 36,084,571

North Carolina State University
Plant Sciences Building 75,200,000
Carmichael Addition and Renovation 45,000,000
Case Commons Residence Hall 15,000,000

University of North Carolina at Asheville
Highsmith Union Renovation 12,430,000
Student Apartment Housing 33,795,000

University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Scott Hall Renovations 22,500,000
Health and Wellness Center 66,000,000

UNC Hospitals at Chapel Hill
Surgical Pavilion and Renovations 250,000,000

Legislation in Effect on July 1, 2016

Session Law	Bill Number	Short Title	Title	Effective Date July 1, 2016
2015-29	HB 434	Handicap Placard/Medical Recertification	An Act To Provide That Medical Recertification Is Not Required For Renewals Of Removable Windshield Handicapped Placards If The Person Is Certified As Totally And Permanently Disabled.	07/01/2016 [See Secs. 1 & 3]
2015-125	HB 148	Insurance Required For Mopeds	An Act To Require Owners Of Mopeds To Have In Full Force And Effect A Policy Of Financial Responsibility And To Make Clarifying Changes Related To The Law Requiring The Registration Of Mopeds.	07/01/2016 [See Secs. 1- 7 & 10]
2015-134	HB 356	NCUC Regulatory Fee Changes	An Act To Clarify The Cap On The Utilities Regulatory Fee Reserve, To Set The Regulatory Fee In Statute, And To Allow The Commission To Raise Or Lower The Fee.	07/01/2016 [See Secs. 3 & 4]
2015-220	HB 308	Clarify Reasonable Health Insurance/LTC Ombudsman	An Act To Amend The Laws Pertaining To The Medical Support And Health Insurance Coverage Relating To Child Support To Align State Law With Federal Guidelines That No Longer Include The Provision That Employer-Provided Group Health Insurance Is Automatically Considered "Reasonable" And To Modify The Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program To Conform With Federal Guidelines.	07/01/2016 [See Secs. 2 & 3]
2015-232	SB 446	Dealer Loaners/Unmanned Aircraft/Brunswick Co.	An Act To Provide For The Uniform Treatment Of Franchised Dealer Loaner Vehicles; To Clarify That Agents Or Agencies Of The State Or A Political Subdivision Of The State Shall Have Authority To Procure And Operate Unmanned Aircraft Systems Upon Approval Of The State Chief Information Officer And To Modify The Regulation Of Unmanned Aircraft Systems To Conform To FAA Guidelines; And To Authorize Brunswick County To Regulate Navigable Waters Within Its Boundaries.	07/01/2016 [See Secs. 1.3(a)&(b)]
2015-241	HB 97	2015 Appropriations Act	An Act To Make Base Budget Appropriations For Current Operations Of State Departments, Institutions, And Agencies, And For Other Purposes.	07/01/2016 [See Secs. 29.27A(a)&(b); 29.30(m) &(u); 32.13(g)&(h); 32.19(a)-(c) & 33.7]
2015-246	HB 44	Local Government Regulatory Reform 2015	An Act To Reform Various Provisions Of The Law Related To Local Government.	07/01/2016 [See Secs. 2.5(a)&(b) & 21]
2015-259	HB 117	NC Competes Act	An Act To Enact The North	07/01/2016 [See

			Carolina Competes Act.	Secs. 7.3(a)&(c) & 8]
2015-262	HB 912	Taxation Of Tribal Land And Tobacco Products	An Act To Exempt Real And Personal Property Located On Tribal Lands From Property Tax Regardless Of Ownership And To Authorize The Department Of Revenue To Enter Into An Agreement With The Eastern Band Of Cherokee Indians Regarding The Taxation Of Tobacco Products, And To Amend The Requirements For Distillery Permit Holders To Sell Spirituous Liquor Distilled On Premises To Visitors Of The Distillery.	07/01/2016 [See Secs. 1 & 4]
2015-268	HB 259	General Government Technical Corrections.- AB	An Act Making Technical, Conforming, And Other Modifications To The Current Operations And Capital Improvements Appropriations Act Of 2015.	07/01/2016 [See Secs. 8.2(a)&(b), 10.1(e1)-(e4)& (i) & 11.1]
2015-271	SB 676	Autism Health Insurance Coverage	An Act To Provide Coverage For The Treatment Of Autism Spectrum Disorder.	07/01/2016 Entire Act [See Sec. 6]
2015-273	SB 694	Reegan's Rule/Enforce Pharmacy Benefits Management	An Act To Encourage Parent Education During Well-Child Visits At Specific Age Intervals Regarding Type I Diabetes And To Amend The Law Pertaining To Pharmacy Benefit Managers.	07/01/2016 [See Secs. 2 & 3]

At the General Assembly



Senator Joyce Waddell, along with other members of the Mecklenburg Delegation, discusses legislative priorities of the real estate industry with Realtors® from Mecklenburg County and across the state on Wednesday, June 22, 2016.

In Charlotte, NC



Senator Joyce Waddell gives a legislative update on education and explains the importance of breaking down cultural and linguistic barriers in school at the Panafest Celebration hosted by Transformation Educational Services, Inc., on Saturday, June 18, 2016.



Senator Joyce Waddell speaks out against the Income Tax Cap constitutional amendment at a press conference on Monday, June 20, 2016.



Senator Joyce Waddell provides inspirational closing remarks at the "Brunch with the Masters," a Career Mastered Woman to Woman Business Collaborative, hosted by Linwick & Associates LLC., on Saturday, June 25, 2016. Senator Waddell received the Inaugural North Carolina Women's History Month Leadership in Action Award on March 1, 2016, for her outstanding leadership and extraordinary career achievements. She offered a word of encouragement to inspire business women of North Carolina.

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From the desk of Senator Joyce Waddell

Choice based math curriculum

CHARLOTTE NC — NC Senators are currently debating the establishment of a choice based math curriculum for public school students.


Recently proposed House Bill 657, Math Standard Course of Study Revisions, would allow students to choose between the traditional, sequential route of Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II or the newer merged math curriculum, also known as integrated math.

On June 8, the bill was discussed in the Senate Committee on Education/Higher Education, and interested parties of the public were able to voice their apprehensions. House Bill 657 was scheduled for floor debate in the Senate Monday.

This proposed legislation sparked a few concerns

for teachers and even students. Some of the concerns include: student preparedness for standardized testing, such as the ACT/SAT, for admission to institutions of higher learning; professional development in order to prepare mathematics teachers to instruct both curricula; ample resources in proportion to the increase in number of classes; readiness for twenty-first century jobs; and student ability to grasp math topics. There were also inquiries raised by parents and teachers on school scheduling complications and funding for additional resources.

"Our children should be able to learn the way that yields the best results for them. However, we do not want to compromise their learning with inconsistency. As a legislature, our job is to ensure the most effective education we can for the children and future of North Carolina. We must choose carefully in the policies we enact and be firm in them since they have a lasting effect on the lives of our citizens," said Senator Joyce Waddell.



Waddell

Senator Waddell's office is open Monday through Friday during Session. You may reach her office by calling her Legislative Assistant, Jyrita Moore, at 919-733-5650 or by email at waddelljla@ncleg.net.

All committee meetings and press conferences can be heard on the General Assembly's website at 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.