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Senator Joyce Waddell's February 27, 2017, Newsletter

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

Sent: Monday, February 27, 2017 4:50 PM

Senator Joyce Waddell's February 27, 2017, Newsletter

Senator Joyce Waddell
 NC Senate
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 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 **February 27,**
No. 6 **2017**

**Dear Friends:**

Governor Roy Cooper is proposing a plan that increases teacher pay by five percent over the next two years. Gov. Cooper's plan would raise teacher pay to first in the Southeast in three years and to the national average in five years. He also proposes that every teacher would receive an additional \$150 to help subsidize out-of-pocket expenses for classroom supplies. North Carolina currently ranks 41st in the nation for average teacher salary.

The Governor's budget proposal would include pay increases for state employees, including public school personnel.

On February 21, 2017, Governor Cooper and Attorney General Josh Stein announced their intent to withdraw North Carolina's appeal involving the ruling of the Voter Information and Verification Act, passed in 2013. The legislation, known as the voter ID law, mandated that photo identification is a requirement to vote. The Act further reduced early voting periods, eliminated same-day registration, and prevented out-of-precinct voting. After being enacted into law, it was challenged by advocacy groups that claimed it was discriminatory to minority citizens. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit ruled that the law's provisions "target African Americans with almost surgical precision." The McCrory administration filed an appeal in late December 2016.

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. 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.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Legislative Update

- [Amend Administrative Procedure Laws \(Senate Bill 16/House Bill 162\)](#) – This legislation would allow agencies to make rule technical corrections without

submitting them to the Rules Reviews Commission. The Codifier of Rules may also make certain types of technical changes to an agency's rules after consulting with the agency. A party aggrieved by an agency action would not be required to petition the agency for rule making or to seek or obtain a declaratory ruling before commencing a contested case. This bill would require agencies to classify all rules as necessary or unnecessary. The rules classified as necessary would be subject to re adoption. This legislation passed the third reading in the Senate and will be sent to the House for further review.

- [**Provide Funding/NC Military Business Center \(Senate Bill 130\)**](#) – This bill would appropriate recurring funding for the North Carolina Military Business Center. The Community College System Office would appropriate \$250,000 for the 2017-2018 fiscal year and \$250,000 for the 2018-2019 fiscal year to support the North Carolina Military Business Center. Senate Bill 130 would also prohibit the reduction of funds to meet management flexibility standards. Senator Joyce Waddell is a co-sponsor of this legislation.
- [**Children of Wartime Veterans Modifications \(Senate Bill 125\)**](#) – This legislation would ensure that all eligible children can obtain scholarships by addressing the meaning of the term, “child,” as it applies to the higher education scholarship program for eligible children of veterans administered by the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. Senator Joyce Waddell is a co-sponsor of this legislation.
- [**State Agencies Must Use eProcurement/PED \(Senate Bill 111/House Bill 18\)**](#) – This bill would require the Department of Administration to develop and maintain electronic or digital standards and systems for the procurement of goods and services and contract management. The legislation would make organizational changes to clarify the procedures the Department of Administration must follow in developing and deploying the systems. Senator Joyce Waddell is a co-sponsor of this legislation.
- [**Repeal HB2/State Nondiscrimination Policies \(House Bill 186\)**](#) – This legislation was filed by some Republicans and Democrats in the House to resolve the controversial law, House Bill 2. House Bill 186 would repeal House Bill 2, give local governments the authority to enforce nondiscrimination ordinances, and require optional referendums for ordinances that receive substantial opposition. This bill would also enhance stricter penalties on crimes committed in public bathrooms and changing facilities.

At the General Assembly



Senator Joyce Waddell attends the Appropriations on Education/Higher Education Committee to review the State Board of Education's plan to lead and uphold the system of public education in North Carolina.
 Tuesday, February 21, 2017



Benjamin and Aaron Brown had a valuable learning experience serving as Senate Pages at the North Carolina General Assembly. They assisted Senators and staff of the Senate by participating in daily sessions, committee meetings, and performing other duties.
 Monday, February 20, 2017

The County News

From the desk of Senator Joyce Waddell

Bills for Introduction

CHARLOTTE, NC — The 2017-18 legislative long session is slowly but surely moving along. State lawmakers continue to file bills for consideration. The senators must meet the deadline of March 15 to file to-cal bills and March 30 to file public bills. The following bills have been filed in the Senate and the House:

Senate Bill 43, SOG Pilot Project Standards/PED, requires the UNC School of Government (SOG) to research and develop standards for sound evaluation of pilot projects. The SOG should make a preliminary report summarizing the research findings to the Joint Legislative Program Evaluation Oversight Committee, the Director of the Program Evaluation Division, and the Office of State Budget and Management by December 1, 2017. The Office of State Budget and Management should adopt rules to implement the standards proposed by the SOG. Senator Joyce Waddell is a primary sponsor of this legislation.

Senate Bill 54/House Bill 58, Charlotte Firefighters' Retirement System, amends the law which establishes the Charlotte Firefighters' Retirement System. Under the current law, the final average salary means the monthly average compensation received during any two consecutive Plan Years of Membership Service over the past five years which produced the highest average. This legislation amends the definition of final average salary to the higher of: (1) the monthly average compensation received during the two highest consecutive Plan Years of the Member's last five years of Membership Service or (2) the monthly average compensation received during the 104 weeks preceding the end of the Member's Membership Service.

House Bill 82, Equality For All/Repeal HB2, was introduced to extend nondiscrimination protections to every citizen across the state. The legislation includes protections for veteran status, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, and marital status. The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) will make a decision on the location of championship games through 2022 by March 1 if House Bill 2 is not repealed.

"As the session continues, it is critical that we look at issues that affect the livelihood of our citizens. The retirees of the Charlotte Fire Department deserve adequate retirement benefits for their many years of service. The Democratic legislators and I are also working hard on our efforts to fully repeal House Bill 2. I will continue to support policy that will build a stronger economy for North Carolina," said Senator Joyce Waddell.

Senator Joyce Waddell's Introduced and Co-Sponsored Legislation

Bill	Short Title	Date	Action Text
S21	DL Restoration/DWI Treatment Court.	02/02/2017	Re-ref to Judiciary. If fav, re-ref to Finance. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate
S25	Repeal HB2.	02/02/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S43 (= H70)	SOG Pilot Project Standards/PED.	02/08/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S44 (= H22)	BOR/Independent Staff/Data Tracking.	02/08/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
*S52	40th Senatorial District Local Act-1.	02/08/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
*S54 (= H58)	Charlotte Firefighters' Retirement System.	02/16/2017	Re-ref to Appropriations on Pensions, Compensation, and Benefits. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate
S82 (= H59)	Revenue Laws Technical Changes.	02/16/2017	Re-ref to Finance. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate
S83	Raise Awareness of Lupus.	02/15/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S84 (= H82)	Equality For All/Repeal HB2.	02/15/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S85 (= H102)	NC Adopt Equal Rights Amendment.	02/15/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S88	Landlord/Tenant-Alias & Pluries Summary Eject.	02/16/2017	Re-ref to Judiciary. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate
S89 (= H17)	Office of State Auditor/Corrective Action/PED.	02/15/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S93 (= H107)	Common Sense Compromise to Repeal HB 2.	02/16/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S111 (= H18)	State Agencies Must Use eProcurement/PED.	02/20/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S124	LEO Managed CBD Oil Drop Box.	02/23/2017	Re-ref to Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate
S125	Children of Wartime Veterans Modifications.	02/23/2017	Re-ref to Education/Higher Education. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate
S128 (= H169)	Kappa Alpha Psi/Special Plate Fee.	02/23/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S130	Provide Funding/NC Military Business Center.	02/23/2017	Re-ref to Appropriations/Base Budget. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate

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.

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