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

Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 5:58 PM

Senator Joyce Waddell's March 27, 2017, Newsletter

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

Serving District 40
Mecklenburg County

The Waddell Weekly Bulletin

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March 27,
2017

**Committees**

Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources
 Appropriations on Education/Higher Education
 Education/Higher Education
 Finance
 Transportation
 Joint Legislative Program Evaluation Oversight
 Joint Legislative Education Oversight
 Joint Legislative Commission on Energy Policy

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*Dear Friends:*

Over the past couple of weeks, the General Assembly has been buzzing with activity. As your Senator, I have been pushing legislation that strengthens education, improves middle-class families, and leads to the greater livelihood of the citizens of District 40 and the state of North Carolina. Whether it be advocating for more accurate school performance grades or increasing the minimum wage, I want to assure you that your issues and interest are being represented here in Raleigh.

On March 8, North Carolina legislators and Raising Wages NC, a growing coalition of workers groups, advocates, businesses and faith leaders, participated in a press conference to announce new legislation that would increase the state's minimum wage from \$7.25 an hour to \$12 an hour by 2020; and \$15 an hour by 2022. North Carolina is one of only 21 states that still maintains the federal minimum wage level. Senator Joyce Waddell, along with other Senate Democrats, sponsored [Senate Bill 210, Living Wage By 2022](#), to assist more than 120,000 citizens surviving on the current minimum wage. Senate Bill 210 is currently in the Committee On Rules and Operations of the Senate.

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!

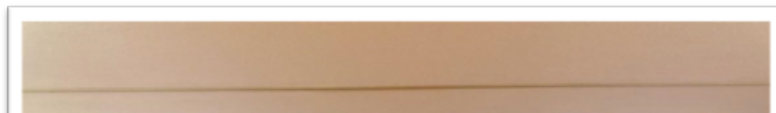
Legislative Update

- [Const. Amd. - Max. Income Tax Rate of 5.5% \(Senate Bill 75\)](#) – This legislation would limit the maximum income tax rate to 5.5 percent rather than the current 10 percent cap. In order for the amendment to pass, it must be approved by three-fifths of both the House and Senate and submitted to the voters of the State. If a majority of the voters approve the ballot question at the statewide general election on November 6, 2018, the bill would become effective when it becomes law. Senate Bill 75 passed the Senate on March 14, with most Democrats voting against the

measure. It was sent to the House for further review. It is currently in the House Committee on Finance.

- [State Board Community College Elections \(House Joint Resolution 194\)](#) – This resolution establishes the date of April 6, 2017, for the House of Representatives and the Senate to elect members to the State Board of Community Colleges during the regular session. The House and Senate must elect one member to the State Board for a term of six years beginning July 1, 2017. House Joint Resolution 194 received unanimous support and became law on March 13, 2017.
- [Veterans' Affairs Commission/Strategic Plan \(Senate Bill 62\)](#) – This legislation would enhance benefits for veterans and their families. The Veterans' Affairs Commission must adopt a strategic plan to improve the accessibility of health, education, training, counseling, financial, and burial benefits and services. This legislation received unanimous support and passed the Senate on March 14. It is currently on the House Committee on Homeland Security, Military, and Veterans Affairs for further review.
- [Teaching Excellence Bonus Expansion \(Senate Bill 169\)](#) – Last year, the General Assembly established the Third Grade Reading Teacher Performance Pilot program to provide bonuses to third-grade reading teachers who are in the top 25 percent of teachers in the State according to the student growth index score for third grade reading from the prior year. However, some qualifying teachers who changed grade levels did not receive the bonus. This bill would expand teaching excellence bonuses for certain teachers who no longer taught third grade but remained teaching at the school. Senate Bill 169 received unanimous support and passed the Senate on March 22.
- [Restore Partisan Elections/Sup. & Dist. Court \(House Bill 100\)](#) – On March 16, Governor Roy Cooper signed his first veto of House Bill 100, which would restore partisan elections in Superior and District Courts. The bill requires District and Superior Court judicial candidates to go through a party primary which would include the candidate's party affiliation on the general election ballot. Candidates who are unaffiliated must follow a petition process to have their names listed on the ballot. House Bill 100 passed the Senate, 32-15, along party lines with Democrats opposing the change. The legislation passed the House, 74-43, then was presented to the Governor. A three-fifths vote of both the House and Senate Chamber is required to override the Governor's veto. The veto was overridden by the House on March 22. The Senate also voted to override the veto on March 23.

At the General Assembly

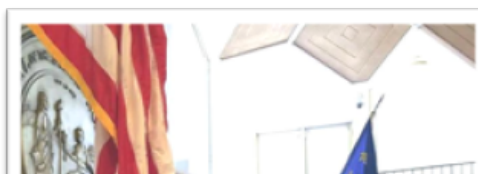




Senator Joyce Waddell meets with members of the Alliance of YMCA to discuss their key issues for this session.
Wednesday, March 22, 2017



Senator Joyce Waddell meets with members of the NC Association of Electric Cooperatives to discuss their legislative priorities.
Wednesday, March 22, 2017





Senator Joyce Waddell leads the Senate in prayer at the beginning of Session.
Monday, March 20, 2017



Senator Joyce Waddell meets with members of the Crown Jewels Chapter of the Links, Inc.
Wednesday, March 15, 2017



Senator Joyce Waddell speaks to the School Nutrition Association about the importance of funding school meal programs.
Tuesday March 14, 2017



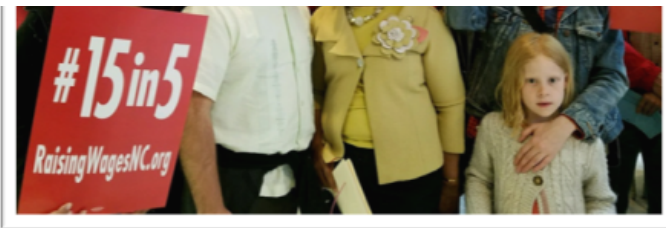


Senator Joyce Waddell reads her Senatorial Statement in honor of Women's History Month.
Tuesday, March 14, 2017



Senator Joyce Waddell met with Charlotte-Mecklenburg's Communities In Schools
at the General Assembly to discuss the need for every child to succeed in life.
Thursday, March 9, 2017



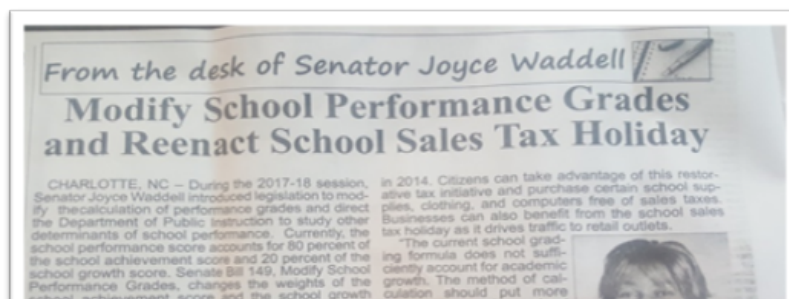


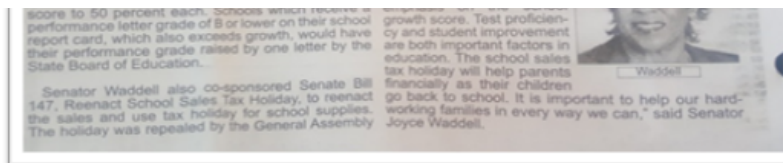
Senator Joyce Waddell, along with some Democratic colleagues, Raising Wages NC, and workers, spoke at a press conference about legislation that would raise the minimum wage to \$15 an hour by 2022.
Thursday, March 9, 2017



Former Representative Larry Hall speaks with supporters prior to his confirmation as Secretary of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.
Monday, March 6, 2017

The County News





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. | 03/08/2017 | Ref To Com On Judiciary III |
| 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. | 03/16/2017 | Ref to the Com on Agriculture, if favorable, Judiciary I |
| S125 | Children of Wartime Veterans Modifications. | 03/22/2017 | Regular Message Received From 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 |
| S146 | Juvenile Reinvestment Act. | 03/01/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S147 | Reenact School Sales Tax Holiday. | 03/01/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| *S149 | Modify School Performance Grades. | 03/01/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S150 | Auto Ins./Notice to Lienholder of Termination. | 03/01/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S179 | Recognize Chowanoke Tribe. | 03/07/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S190 (= H270) | The Haley Hayes Newborn Screening Bill. | 03/07/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S210 (= H289) | Living Wage By 2022. | 03/08/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S228 (= H303) | Voter Freedom Act. | 03/14/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S236 | Efficient and Affordable Energy Rates. | 03/14/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S252 (= H339) | North Carolina Teaching Fellows. | 03/15/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S259 | Restore Master's Degree Pay for All Teachers. | 03/15/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S280 | Early Literacy Initiative/Funds. | 03/16/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S290 | Medicaid Expansion/Healthcare Jobs Initiative. | 03/16/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S299 | Habitual Impaired Driving/10-Year Period. | 03/21/2017 | Re-ref to Judiciary. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S305 (= H422) | Raise Awareness About Alzheimer's & Dementias. | 03/21/2017 | Re-ref to Health Care. If fav, re-ref to Appropriations/Base Budget. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S306 | 2014-15 First Responders | 03/22/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------|---|
| S309 | 9/11 as First Responders Day. | 03/20/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S311 | DHHS Study/Maternal and Neonatal Care. | 03/20/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S312 (= H254) | Surplus Computers for Low-Income Students. | 03/20/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S313 | Increase Small Brewery Limits. | 03/20/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| *S314 | Give Retirees 2% COLA/Funds. | 03/20/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S316 (= H285) | Suicide Prevention/Awareness School Personnel. | 03/20/2017 | Re-ref to Health Care. If fav, re-ref to Education/Higher Education. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S317 (= H411) | Hypertension Awareness Day. | 03/20/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S318 | School Calendar Flexibility/PED Report. | 03/21/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S319 | Natural & Cultural Resources/Confirmation. | 03/22/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S320 | Secretary of Administration Confirmation. | 03/22/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S321 | School Calendar Flexibility/PED Report. | 03/22/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S322 (= H441) | Caregiver Advise, Record & Enable (CARE) Act. | 03/22/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S327 | Drivers With Disabilities and Law Enforcement. | 03/22/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S332 | Repeal HB 2. | 03/22/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S333 | Require Use of Directional Signals. | 03/22/2017 | Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate |
| S352 | NC Promise Tuition Plan Modifications. | 03/22/2017 | Filed |

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.

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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