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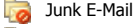
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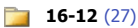
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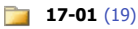
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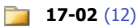
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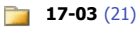
16-12 Grants Committee



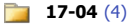
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Senator Joyce Waddell's April 10, 2017, Newsletter

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

Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 9:34 AM**Attachments:** image003.jpg (128 KB);

Senator Joyce Waddell's April 10, 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

Vol. 3 Ed. 1 **April 10,**
No. 8 **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:**

On March 29, I held a press conference with retired school personnel and government employees to discuss the need for a cost-of-living increase. I introduced [Senate Bill 314, Give Retirees Two Percent COLA/Funds](#), which would provide a two percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for retired teachers and state employees. State retirees have not seen a two percent increase in their pension since 2009. Retired employees contributed six percent of their salaries into retirement funds during their careers.

It is time to show our appreciation to those who have dedicated years of service to our state. As retirees age, the costs of healthcare, medication, and other expenses have increased. We must ensure that state retirees have the same purchasing power no matter how quickly the prices of goods and services may rise. We must continue to support measures that will account for the effect of long-term inflation.

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

- [LRC/Strengthen Savings Reserve \(House Bill 7/Senate Bill 14\)](#) – This legislation sets ground rules on how the state government will save money in case of a fiscal emergency. The bipartisan measure requires the automatic transfer of a set amount of funds each fiscal

year to the Savings Reserve. It also limits the uses for which funds in the Savings Reserve may be expended. This legislation passed the House and Senate. It currently awaits the Governor's signature. I voted in support of this bill.

- **[Habitual Felons/Clarify Previous Convictions \(Senate Bill 223\)](#)** – This bill clarifies which prior criminal convictions may be used to establish habitual felon status. Any person who has been convicted of or pled guilty to three felony offenses in any federal court or state court in the United States is considered a habitual felon. Aside from specific exceptions, a felony offense would include:
 - a. A felony in this state.
 - b. A felony in another state that is substantially similar to a felony in North Carolina.
 - c. A felony under federal law.
 - d. An offense similar to a felony in North Carolina, punishable by imprisonment for more than a year in a state that does not use the classification of felony.

This legislation passed the Senate unanimously on March 27. It is currently in the Committee on Judiciary II in the House.

- **[Billion Dollar Class Tax Cut \(Senate Bill 325\)](#)** – This legislation reduces the personal tax rate from 5.499 percent to 5.34 percent and expands the standard deductions for all personal income tax filers. Currently, the standard deduction is \$17,500 for married filing jointly taxpayers and \$8,750 for single filers. Senate Bill 325 increases these standard deductions to \$20,000 and \$10,000, respectively. It also reduces the income tax rate for corporations from 3% to 2.75% in 2018 and 2.5% in 2019.

The General Assembly's Fiscal Research Division highlighted that the annual cost of the tax plan would grow up to \$839 million in lost revenue by 2022. The enactment of large tax cuts would make it harder to balance the budget in the long term and meet increasing demands of a growing population. Senate Bill 325 passed the Senate on April 6, with all Democrats opposing the measure. It will be sent to the House for further review.

- **[Reset of S.L. 2016-3 \(House Bill 142\)](#)** – Finally, after a year since its passage, [House Bill 2, Public Facilities Privacy & Security Act](#), is removed from the books. House Bill 142 passed the Senate 32-16 then passed the House 70-48.

House Bill 142 was a compromise to end the economic damage hurting our families and businesses. It makes progress toward our ultimate goal. I voted in support of this legislation. By repealing House Bill 2, this bill reinstates Charlotte's non-discrimination ordinance as it read prior to February 22, 2016. That means that a place of public accommodation (i.e., "a business, accommodation, refreshment, entertainment, recreation, or transportation facility ... whose goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages or accommodations are extended, offered, sold or otherwise made available to the public") may not discriminate based on race, color, religion, national origin, or sex. Complaints of discrimination may now again be filed with the City's Community Relations Committee which will investigate and bring an enforcement action if warranted. This is not the end of our work to make North Carolina better, and we will continue pressing to make our state a more welcoming and fair place.

Here is an overview of the differences between House Bill 2 and House Bill 142:

House Bill 2 Versus House Bill 142

Bathroom access: House Bill 2 requires all multiple-occupancy bathrooms, locker rooms and changing rooms overseen by state agencies, cities, counties and school districts be designated for use by a single gender based on what's listed on a person's birth certificate. House Bill 142 says only the General Assembly can establish access rules for public bathrooms.

Nondiscrimination ordinances: House Bill 2 established a statewide nondiscrimination policy for employment and public accommodations based on "race, religion, color, national origin, age, biological sex or handicap," leaving out protections based on sexual orientation or gender identity, and it barred cities and counties from going beyond the state policy. House Bill 142 repeals the statewide policy and blocks all local nondiscrimination ordinances until Dec. 1, 2020, but places no restrictions on them after that date.

Local contracts: House Bill 2 prohibited local governments from setting rules for private contractors regarding minimum wage and worker benefits. As part of its repeal provision, House Bill 142 does away with this and doesn't replace it.

At the General Assembly



Senator Joyce Waddell and the Charlotte City Council - Mayor Jennifer Roberts, Mayor Pro Tem Viola Lyles, Council Member LaWana Mayfield, Council Member Julie Eiselt, Council Member Dimple Ajmera, and Council Member Kenny Smith at the General Assembly
March 29, 2017



Senator Joyce Waddell met with the Association of Surgical Technologists at the General Assembly.
March 29, 2017



Senator Joyce Waddell met with representatives of the Arts & Science Council.
March 29, 2017



Senator Joyce Waddell spoke at a press conference in support of the Equal Rights Amendment.
March 29, 2017



Senator Joyce Waddell discussed the need to increase resources in low-wealth rural communities at a press conference. March 29, 2017

The County News

From the desk of Senator Joyce Waddell


Governor Roy Cooper Vetoes House Bill 100

CHARLOTTE, NC – 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.

Governor Cooper wrote in a news release, "North Carolina wants its judges to be fair and impartial, and partisan politics has no place on the judges' bench. We need less politics in the courtroom, not more. Judges make tough decisions on child abuse, divorce, property disputes, drunk driving, domestic violence, and other issues that should be free from politics. This bill reverses that process."

State legislators switched the Superior Court elections from partisan to nonpartisan in 1996 and made the same change for District Court in 2001. 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.

"I support Governor Cooper's decision to veto House Bill 100. Judges should be elected based off of their professional history. Politics should not be considered in judicial elections," said Senator Joyce Waddell.



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	02/08/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate

	Tracking.		
*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.	03/23/2017	Ref to the Com on Education - Universities, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House
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.	04/05/2017	Re-ref Com On Appropriations/Base Budget
S259	Restore Master's Degree Pay for All Teachers.	03/15/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S280 (= H658)	Early Literacy Initiative/Funds.	03/23/2017	Re-ref to Appropriations/Base Budget. If fav, re-ref to Education/Higher Education. If fav, re-ref to 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.	04/06/2017	Passed 2nd Reading
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
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.	04/06/2017	Reptd Fav
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.	04/04/2017	Re-ref Com On Health Care
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.	04/06/2017	Adopted
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.	04/04/2017	Re-ref to Transportation. If fav, re-ref to Judiciary. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate
S352	NC Promise Tuition Plan Modifications.	03/23/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S382	Mobile Beauty Salons.	03/27/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S387	Limit Session Length.	03/27/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate

S390 (= H170)	Pilot/Sports for Students With Disabilities.	03/28/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S399 (= H485)	UNC & CC Credit/National Gd on SAD.	03/28/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S400 (= H486)	National Guard Tuition Assistance Program.	03/28/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S412	Improve Process/Sale of Unclaimed Vehicles.	03/29/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S418	Dyslexia Kindergarten Screening.	03/29/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
*S438	Allow Senior Citizens to Audit UNC/CC Courses.	03/29/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
*S439	Funds/Eliminate NC Pre-K Waitlist Statewide.	03/29/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S440	National Popular Vote Interstate Compact.	03/29/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S442	Study/Expand Computer Science to All Students.	03/29/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S443	TA Tuition/Teachers Pilot/Funds for Books.	03/29/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S449	Early Ed Articulation Agreement.	03/29/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S456	Increase De-Escalation Training for LEOs.	03/29/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S463 (= H543)	Caregiver Relief Act.	03/30/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S500	Strengthen Human Trafficking Law.	03/30/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S515	NC Skills Gap Study.	03/30/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S516	State Employees/Paid Parental Leave.	03/30/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S537	North Carolina Equal Pay Act.	04/03/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S538	Sudden Cardiac Arrest Task Force.	04/03/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S540 (= H534)	Computer Coding Course Elective.	04/03/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S548	Strengthen Human Trafficking Laws/Studies.	04/03/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S554	Fair Redistricting/Postmark&Absentee Ballots.	04/03/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S556 (= H544)	Healthy Families & Workplaces/Paid Sick Days.	04/03/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S580	UI for High Unemployment Areas/State Funding.	04/04/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S581	Establish Mandatory Dementia Care Training.	04/04/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S583	Occup. Therap./Phys. Therap. Salaries.	04/06/2017	Re-ref to Education/Higher Education. If fav, re-ref to Appropriations/Base Budget. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate
S584	Pilot Project: Tablets for Inmates.	04/05/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S587	Tax Returns Uniformly Made Public Act.	04/05/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S588 (= H563)	Whole Woman's Health Act.	04/05/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S589 (= H279)	Fantasy Sports Regulation.	04/05/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S592	Small Business Access to Capital Act.	04/06/2017	Re-ref to Appropriations/Base Budget. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate
S594 (= H608)	Family/Child Protection & Accountability Act.	04/06/2017	Re-ref to Health Care. If fav, re-ref to Appropriations/Base Budget. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate
S627	Minority Colleges Advisory Board.	04/05/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S633	Reduce Annual State Bar Fees.	04/05/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S636	Increase Judicial Pay 20%.	04/05/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S637 (= H603)	Small Farms to Healthier Schools Initiative.	04/05/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S639 (= H594)	Healthy Mother, Healthy Child.	04/05/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S643	Establish Veterans Treatment Court.	04/05/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S644	Increase Diversity Among Physician Assistants.	04/05/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S645	Keep Both Parents in Life of Child.	04/05/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S646	Universal Voter Registration.	04/05/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S648 (= H185)	Legalize Medical Marijuana.	04/05/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S652	Increase Access to Higher Education.	04/05/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S659	Secretary of Commerce Confirmation.	04/05/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S663 (= S665)	The I. Beverly Lake, Jr. Fair Trial Act.	04/05/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S667	Amend Various Innocence Commission Statutes.	04/05/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S670	Sales Tax Exemption - Agricultural Fairs.	04/05/2017	Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
S672 (= S675)	Lack of Postmark/Absentee Ballots.	04/05/2017	Ref To Com On 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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