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## Senator Joyce Waddell's June 19, 2017, Newsletter

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

Sent: Monday, June 19, 2017 5:26 PM

Senator Joyce Waddell's June 19, 2017, Newsletter

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

*Serving District 40  
Mecklenburg County*



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Joint Legislative Commission on Energy Policy

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## The Waddell Weekly Bulletin

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2017



### Dear Friends:

On June 5, the Supreme Court affirmed a three-judge panel's ruling that 28 North Carolina legislative districts were drawn illegally using racial gerrymandering. Governor Roy Cooper called for a special session to take place on June 8 for the legislature to redraw the electoral district maps. The special session would have run concurrently with the regular session. The North Carolina Legislative Black Caucus held a press conference to call on Republicans to quickly redraw the unconstitutional legislative district maps.

The Republican leaders refused the special session, calling Governor Cooper's action unconstitutional. The current maps were drawn in 2011 and first used in the 2012 election, which helped many Republicans fill the seats in the House and the Senate, allowing them to easily pass House Bill 2, tax cuts, and taxpayer funded scholarships for private school students.

The Senate and the House are working diligently in getting policy bills through the committee and to the floor before or shortly after the final budget is approved. The budget conference committee plans to present a spending plan to the House and Senate next week.

*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 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!*

## Legislative Update

- [Sales Tax Economic Nexus For Remote Sales \(Senate Bill 81\)](#) – This bill requires sellers who have made gross sales of more than \$100,000 sourced to North Carolina or who made 200 or more separate sales transactions sourced to this State to file taxes in the North Carolina. It passed the Senate by a 40-8 vote, with most Democrats opposing the

legislation, and will be sent to the House.

- [Excellent Educators for Every Classroom \(Senate Bill 599\)](#) – This legislation would re-enact the State Board of Education’s authority to establish by rule a schedule of fees for professional educator licensure. The bill would not change the parameters of this authority. Unless changed by rule, the current fee amounts would remain the same. Substantively, the bill would do the following:
  - Establish the Professional Educator Preparation and Standards (PEPS) Commission
  - Authorize entities meeting certain criteria to become an approved educator preparation program (EPP)
  - Establish a residency model to replace lateral entry, providing additional support for those teaching as their second career
  - Create a structured EPP accountability system
  - Clarify the educator licensure process
  - Ensure availability of information on teacher vacancies occurring in North Carolina public schools

It passed the Senate 35-13, with most Democrats opposing the legislation and it will be sent to the House.

- [Rylan's Law/Family/Child Protect. & Acc. Act. House Bill 630](#) – This legislation does the following:
  - Establishes social services regional supervision and collaboration
  - Reforms the State child welfare system
  - Improves accountability and state oversight of the child welfare system
  - Requires written agreements, corrective action, and state intervention with social services departments
  - Creates regional social services departments
  - Establishes a child well-being transformation council to improve coordination, collaboration, and communication among child-serving agencies
  - Establishes a pilot program to help youth in substitute care obtain drivers licenses
  - Establishes a pilot program to authorize a waiver of the employment requirement for foster parents with children receiving intensive alternative family treatment
  - Reduces the time a parent has to appeal from a termination of parental rights order
  - Reduces the time for foster care licensure approval
  - Requires child protective service observation before physical custody of a child may be returned to a parent, guardian, custodian or caretaker from whom the child was removed

This legislation passed the House and the Senate. It currently awaits the Governor’s signature.

- [Ferry Transportation Authority \(Senate Bill 391\)](#) – Senate Bill 391 would authorize the creation of a Ferry Transportation Authority to operate a ferry system in the area of a tidal river, and adjoining estuaries, in the vicinity of a municipality that is only accessible by water. Senate Bill 391 passed the Senate unanimously. The bill is currently in the House.

- [Special Assessments/Critical Infrastructure \(House Bill 158/ Senate Bill 118\)](#) – This legislation would authorize a county or city to contract with a private party to construct a project on behalf of the county or city, and to reimburse the private party for costs incurred by the private party related to the project from the imposition of special assessments on the benefited property owners. The county or city would not be obligated to reimburse the private party any amount in excess of assessment revenues actually collected, less the entity's related administrative expenses. It would also modify the procedural process counties and cities would follow when proposing a special assessment. It passed the Senate and the House and awaits the Governor's signature.

## At the General Assembly



Senator Joyce Waddell led the Senate Chamber in prayer at the beginning of Session.

June 8, 2017

## In Charlotte



Senator Waddell attends the Leroy "Pop" Miller Living the Legacy Banquet hosted by Teach for America.

June 8, 2017

## The County News




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](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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