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**For Immediate Release - Senator Joyce Waddell's Equal Rights Amendment**  
 Jyrita Moore (Sen. Joyce Waddell) [Waddelljla@ncleg.net]


**Sent:** Wednesday, June 27, 2018 11:06 AM



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

**From the Office of Sen. Joyce Waddell, NC Senate**  
 Mecklenburg County



**CONTACT: Sen. Joyce Waddell**  
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**Equal Rights Amendment**

**Charlotte, NC** – Today, legislative Democrats held a press conference to call for North Carolina to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment, a 1972 constitutional amendment on equal rights for women. The Equal Rights Amendment guarantees that equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex. In order to be added to the Constitution, the Equal Rights Amendment needs approval by legislatures in three-fourths (38) of the 50 states. On May 30, 2018, Illinois became the 37th state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment.

Senator Joyce Waddell is a co-sponsor of Senate Bill 782, NC Adopt Equal Rights Amendment/Funds, which would ratify the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America. She expressed the need to pass this legislation at the press conference:

**“Without the Equal Rights Amendment, women will have to fight long, expensive, and difficult legal battles to prove that their rights are equal to those of the other sex. Women must be provided with a constitutional right to equality. The Equal Rights Movement is just as important today as it was when it was first written by Alice Paul in 1923. Everyone should receive equal treatment and not be discriminated against based on their gender. Illinois became the 37<sup>th</sup> state to pass the Equal Rights Amendment. What is North Carolina waiting for? Women have been the fiercest fighters of freedom and equality in hopes of a more harmonious nation. Women play a vital role in our economy—women make up almost half of North Carolina’s workers, and they are the primary breadwinner in 4 out of 10 of our state’s families. In order for societies to thrive, women must have equal rights and equal opportunities,”** said Senator Joyce Waddell.

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