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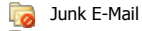
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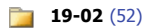
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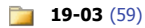
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16-12 Grants Committee



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For Immediate Release

Sen. Joyce Waddell [joyce.waddell@ncleg.net]

Sent: Friday, May 31, 2019 11:01 AM

To: [Steve Johnston](#)



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, May 31, 2019

CONTACT: Sen. Joyce Waddell
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Joyce.Waddell@ncleg.net



Changes in North Carolina Health Care

Charlotte, NC- The Senate passed HB 70 on Wednesday. This bill will extend the deadline for health providers to connect to NC Healthconnex, North Carolina's electronic health information exchange network.

Previously June 1st, 2019, the deadline will now be in 2022 to allow small physician's offices and mental health providers extra time. Unlike large hospitals with more funds and manpower, many small scale health providers are completely unable to meet the 2019 deadline, since putting reams of hard-copy patient information on the electronic database takes exorbitant amounts of time and may cost up to \$100,000. Before the passage of HB 70, providers who did not meet the deadline would be unable to submit bills for state-funded health care, like Medicaid.

"This bill ensures the necessary progress towards a fully electronic system continues, without damaging small scale health providers" said Senator Joyce Waddell.

The Senate also unanimously passed House Bill 388, which will add to the list of vaccines pharmacists may administer. The new additions will be the Hepatitis A vaccine, Serogroup B meningococcal vaccines, the Human Papillomavirus vaccine, as well as the flu vaccine for children age 10 and older, or 6 and older with a prescription. These changes received support from both pharmacists and pediatricians across the state.

"This bill will make immunization more convenient for North Carolinians, a step forward for our public health" said Senator Joyce Waddell.

###


Sen. Joyce Waddell, District 40 | 1113 Legislative Building, Raleigh, NC 27601

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