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For Immediate Release

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

Sent: Friday, July 26, 2019 3:00 PM

To: Steve Johnston



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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, July 26th, 2019

CONTACT: Sen. Joyce Waddell
(919) 733-5650
Joyce.Waddell@ncleg.net

Education and Public Safety Bills

Charlotte, NC- The general assembly finished a busy week, but the highly anticipated vetoed budget bill did not come forward for an override in the House or the Senate. The Senate voted on many conference report bills and bills for concurrence. Some significant legislation that came the floor was:

Senate Bill 438: Excellent Public Schools Act of 2019

This bill dealing with the North Carolina Read to Achieve program returned to the Senate after the House amended it to allow school districts to have discretion over the program they use to teach and test reading skills with young students. Senator Waddell agreed with this amendment and voted to concur, but the majority party did not agree, and the bill was voted down 19-23. It will now return to the House, and may feature in further negotiations toward a compromise.

House Bill 391: Passenger Protection Act

This bill will take steps to prevent impersonation of Uber, Lyft and other ride-share drivers, due to an incident in South Carolina in which a young woman was killed after getting in the car with a man pretending to be her Uber driver. The legislation makes ride-share drivers show license plate numbers and company logo on the front of their vehicles. It also creates a Class 2 misdemeanor for impersonating a ride-share driver, and a Class H Felony for impersonating a ride-share driver malicious intent.

House Bill 724: Truth in Caller ID Act

This bill hopes to cut down on harassment over the telephone. It will regulate telephone solicitations made through text communications and will prohibit a telephone solicitor from misrepresenting the origin of the call by causing misleading information to be transmitted to users of caller identification technologies. It passed 45-0, and the Governor has already signed it into law.

“This is type of regulation arises as the issues involved with new technologies become apparent. We hope these laws will lead to a safer and more transparent environment around phone calls and ride-sharing,” said Senator Joyce Waddell.

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

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