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August Newsletter
 Senator Joyce Waddell [waddellja@ncleg.net]

Sent: Saturday, August 31, 2019 1:00 PM
To: [Steve Johnston](#)

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*Serving District 40 and
 Mecklenburg County*

The Waddell Bulletin



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2019-2020 Committees

- Rules and Operations of the Senate
- Appropriations on Education/Higher Education
- Finance
- Transportation
- Joint Legislative Program
- Evaluation Oversight
- Joint Legislative Education Oversight
- Joint Legislative Commission on Energy Policy
- Pensions and Retirement and Aging

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Visit my website

Dear Friends:

The long legislative session is going much longer than expected. The majority party leaders have been offered a budget compromise and they are not willing to negotiate. It's costing tax payers \$42,000 a day for legislative sessions to continue. It is hoped that an agreement will be reached in the very near future.

House Bill 555 Medicaid Transformation Implementation was calendared with all Senate Democrats voting no. This bill does not address the needs of full medicaid. House Bill 555 would allocate more than \$400 million in funds to the new program, funding that's in the vetoed budget bill. Senator Waddell and other Democrats raised concerns about the toll the change would take on residents

This week the Senate voted on House Bill 226 Pay Increases/State Employees. This bill features the pay raise package for most state employees outside of education and law enforcement but does include everything that was listed in the Democratic budget.

It may be some time before the Governor and the majority party come to an agreement on the budget, but in the meantime, it is important that majority party negotiate on the budget. I stand with Gov. Cooper to push for investments in education and health care in the state budget instead of more corporate tax breaks and special interest earmarks.

As always, please reach out to my office, or those of your other representatives, with your

requests and concerns. Feedback always helps us to better serve you.

-Senator Joyce Waddell

Session News

Some bills that passed the Senate this month included:

- [Senate Bill 68: Relocation of Water/Sewer Line Costs](#) would amend the law requiring that the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) pay a percentage of nonbetterment costs for certain water and sewer line relocations when located within the right-of-way (ROW) of State transportation improvement projects.
- [Senate Bill 321: Federal Motor Carrier Safety/PRISM](#) would make various changes to the motor vehicle laws of this State to incorporate requirements of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) Performance and Registration Information Systems Management (PRISM) Program.
- [Senate Bill 584: Criminal Law Reform](#) The Proposed Committee Substitute (PCS) for Senate Bill 584 would subject all rules creating criminal penalties to a delayed effective date, extend the deadline for local governments and State agencies to report on ordinances and rules subject to a criminal penalty, and require the General Statutes Commission to study the reports received.
- [House Bill 597: Wildlife Resources Commission Amends](#) would make various changes to the Wildlife Resources Commission's (WRC) laws, licenses, and fees.
- [House Bill 604: Small Business Retirement Program](#) The Joint Legislative Study Committee on Small Business Retirement Options to study the following: ways reduce burdens on small businesses offering payroll deduction retirement savings options; mechanisms to prepare citizens for financial security in retirement; the feasibility of partnering with similar programs; and recommended oversight for a proposed program. No later than March 31, 2020, the Committee must report findings and recommendations, including proposed legislation, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Fiscal Research Division.
- [House Bill 206: Various Transportation Changes](#) Give private educational institutions condemnation authority to facilitate transportation improvements required by the Department. Enact a new Airport Improvement Program to provide for allocation of funds to airports. Direct the Department's Office of Civil Rights to increase outreach to small professional service firms. Reenact a provision first enacted in 2009 to authorize the Department to participate in private developer contracts for engineering, design, or construction of improvements in limited circumstances.
- [Senate Bill 438: Excellent Public Schools Act of 2019](#) an act to modify the implementation of the North Carolina read to achieve program in order to attain statewide reading proficiency by the third grade. Senate voted 68-48 to pass the bill. Governor Cooper vetoed this bill on August 23, 2019.
- [Senate Bill 86: Small Business Health Care Act](#) an act to establish standards for association health plans and multiple employer welfare arrangements became law on August 26, 2019. Senator Waddell states "it is important that all workers have access to adequate health care."
- [Senate Bill 353: Amend Cartway Path/Septic Tank Laws](#) would authorize a jury of view to lay off a cartway of not less than 18 feet in width and not

more than 30 feet in width. The PCS to Senate Bill 253 adds Section 2 which would clarify that the minimum horizontal distance between every sanitary sewage treatment and disposal system and downslope interceptor drains, foundation drains, and storm water diversions shall be 15 feet for applications and development plans that were submitted on or before August 1, 2019. Senator Waddell supported this bill -"Provisions for obtaining a cartway across the property of another as enacted in SB353 is very valuable to many residents who are desiring access to landlocked property."

- [House Bill 555: Medicaid Transformation Implementation](#) provides funding for the operation of the Medicaid program and the transition to managed care during the 2019-2021 fiscal biennium, and makes other changes necessary for the transition to managed care to begin as scheduled on November 1, 2019. The bill makes two finance-related changes, as follows: 1. Part X revises the two existing hospital assessments to conform to the managed care delivery system. 2. Part XI applies the premiums tax levied under G.S. 105-228.5 to Medicaid capitation payments received by prepaid health plans in the same manner in which the tax currently applies to gross insurance premiums.
- [House Bill 609: Salary Increases/Adult Correctional Employees](#) would provide to a State employee who is employed in a position based in one or more State adult correctional facilities and was employed by the State as of June 30 of each year of the 2019-2021 fiscal biennium (i) a 2.5% pay increase for each fiscal year of the biennium and (ii) 5 days of special annual .

You can read all bills, listen to session and committee meetings, and follow the work of the North Carolina General Assembly at www.ncleg.gov

Intern with Senator Waddell



Are you a college or graduate student hoping to learn about the North Carolina Senate?

Would you like to gain experience working with legislation and lawmakers?

Interns in Senator Waddell's office help research bills, write talking points, draft communications (like this one!), and more!

To apply, send a resume and cover letter to waddelljla@ncleg.net

Serving You





Senator Waddell shared legislation with constituents during the Annual 2019 Brooklyn Heritage Reunion Festival .



Senator Waddell volunteered during the CMS New Teacher Orientation to provide support for a successful start to the school year.





Senator Waddell met with the International Minority Coalition in Charlotte to engage with minorities and diverse groups to foster meaningful relationships, and to stand in unity to represent those who are underrepresented and address minority issues.



Senator Waddell did back to school shopping for school supplies to donate to local schools and also volunteered with members of the National Council of Negro Women in collecting supplies to prepare our students for a new school year! Every child deserves to start the school year feeling confident and prepared. A child that feels confident is more likely to succeed.

***I cannot achieve anything without my constituents.
Please reach out with any questions, or feedback you'd like to
share. Thank you for your support!
-Senator Joyce Waddell***

Senator Joyce Waddell | 1113 Legislative Building, Raleigh, NC 27601

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