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For Immediate Release

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

Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 4:25 PM

To: Steve Johnston



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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, March 27, 2020

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North Carolina General Assembly Coronavirus Update

Charlotte, NC- The General Assembly Suspends Interim session. We are scheduled to return to session on April 28, but Governor Cooper can call us back into a special session on short notice if action or appropriations are needed to fight the coronavirus.

What typically happens when the legislature is not in session are interim committee meetings. These committees meet to hear progress reports on what is going on with key issues or to tackle issues that are complex and require more time and attention than what may be available during legislative session times. Because of the coronavirus, all interim committee meetings have been suspended.

As the number of COVID-19 cases continue to rise in Mecklenburg County, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Emergency Management Office announced a 'Stay-at-Home' order for county residents. The order went into effect on Thursday, March 26 at 8:00 a.m. and will remain in effect for the next 21 days.

What you CAN do during this 'Stay-At-Home' Order:

- Go to the grocery, convenience or warehouse
- Go to the pharmacy to pick up medications and other healthcare necessities
- Visiting a health care professional for medical services that cannot be provided virtually (call first)
- Go to a restaurant for take-out, delivery or drive-thru
- Care for or support a friend or family member
- Take a walk, ride your bike, hike, jog and be in nature for exercise - just keep at least six feet between you and others
- Walk your pets and take them to the veterinarian if necessary
- Help someone to get necessary supplies
- Receive deliveries from any business which delivers

What you can NOT do during this 'Stay-At-Home' Order:

- Go to work unless you are providing essential services as defined by the Order

- Visit friends and family if there is no urgent need
- Maintain less than 6 feet of distance from others when you go out
- Visit loved ones in the hospital, nursing home, skilled nursery facility or other residential care facility, except for limited exceptions listed on the facility websites
- Travel except for essential travel and activities

"Always keep in mind that we must remember to take care of ourselves and we must also reach out to take care of others." said Senator Joyce Waddell.

Here are some resources that may be helpful:

- If you feel sick and think you might have coronavirus, call your primary care doctor. If you don't have a primary care doctor, call the COVID-19 helpline at 1-866-462-3821.
- If you have lost your job or had your work hours cut drastically due to COVID-19, consider applying for unemployment benefits [here](#).
- If you own a small business that has been harmed by COVID-19, consider applying for a disaster relief loan [here](#).
- For more information, visit the websites of the [North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services](#), and the [Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#).

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