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For Immediate Release

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

Sent: Saturday, April 25, 2020 5:53 PM

To: [Steve Johnston](#)

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Saturday April 25, 2020

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**Operational Plans for Senate Session**

Charlotte, NC- As of Friday, April 24, 2020, we are now at 8,052 cases in North Carolina. There are 93 counties with cases. There are 477 people hospitalized with COVID-19. We have 269 confirmed deaths for North Carolina.

All of our dashboard information is available in the tabs just above the interactive county map.

<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/covid-19-case-count-nc>

North Carolina's Stay-at-Home order will be extended by eight days, to end on May 8, 2020 followed by plans to reopen the state that will echo the White House's recommendations with a three-phase process. During each phase, officials will be monitoring the number of positive cases and any noticeable spike in cases, the percentage of positive tests and the number of overall hospitalizations due to COVID-19.

PHASE 1

- Stay-at-Home order remains in place, but people will have more opportunities to leave their home to patronize essential businesses.
- Those retailers and services will need to implement social distancing, cleaning and other protocols. Any businesses specifically closed by the executive order, including bars and restaurants for dine-in service, nail and hair salons, and gyms must stay closed.
- Gatherings limited to no more than 10 people
- Parks can open subject to gathering limits
- Face coverings recommended in public
- Restrictions remain in place for nursing homes and other congregate living settings
- Encourage continued teleworking

PHASE 2: about 2-3 weeks after Phase 1

- Lift Stay-at-Home order with strong encouragement for vulnerable populations to continue staying at home
- Allow limited opening of restaurants, bars and other businesses that can follow strict safety protocols (reduced capacity)
- Allow gathering at houses of worship and entertainment venues at reduced capacity
- Increase in number of people allowed at gatherings
- Face coverings recommended in public
- Open public playgrounds

- Continue rigorous restrictions on nursing homes and other congregate living settings

PHASE 3: about 4-6 weeks after Phase 2

- Lessen restrictions for vulnerable populations with encouragement to continue practicing physical distancing
- Allow increased capacity at restaurants, bars, other businesses, houses of worship and entertainment venues
- Further increase the number of people allowed at gatherings
- Increase in number of people allowed at gatherings
- Continue rigorous restrictions on nursing homes and other congregate living settings

"So that we all remain healthy and safe, we need more testing, tracking and treatment to protect everyone's health. This is the message that we hear over and over from the state and from the federal government. We must also continue to look out for the most vulnerable among us and we can see that is being done by social distancing and not opening non essential businesses.

More importantly, we must always remember that in order to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus infections, we must wash our hands frequently. with soap and water, wear protective face covering, avoid crowds of people and stay at home if at all possible." said Senator Joyce Waddell.

###

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