

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Senator Marcus Files Bills Advocating for Needs of North Mecklenburg



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Senator Natasha Marcus Files Bills Advocating for Needs in North Mecklenburg

Raleigh, NC – This week Senator Marcus filed four bills with local impacts in Senate District 41. The topics include strengthening environmental protections, studying ocular melanoma, revitalizing the Smithville neighborhood, and planning for affordable housing.

Senator Marcus filed her Improve Pipeline Safety bill, in response to the 1.4 million+ gallons of gasoline that leaked from Colonial Pipeline's 40+ year old pipe in Huntersville. It is the worst gasoline pipeline discharge in North Carolina history and clean-up is still ongoing. The bill would help avoid future environmental disasters by giving authority to the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality to study the condition, safety, and environmental impact of pipelines that transport petroleum products in and through the State and make recommendations to the General Assembly about legislative changes to improve pipeline safety.

Senator Marcus is also seeking \$150,000 to hire environmental experts at the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke University to study and abate the high occurrences of ocular melanoma in the district. To date, the community has been unable to determine what is causing so many cases of this serious cancer.

For the Town of Davidson, Senator Marcus is seeking funding for pedestrian safety, fire station and sustainability projects.

For Cornelius, Senator Marcus filed a bill seeking \$1 million to support the Smithville Community Development Corporation's Revitalization Plan to save the historically African American neighborhood of Smithville.

For Huntersville, Senator Marcus is seeking \$150,000 for the Town to create an affordable housing plan.

Senator Marcus said, "It is my duty and privilege to look out for the residents I represent. I'm also working to support the North Mecklenburg towns in their initiatives to improve life for residents by filing bills at their request."

The bills can be found at the links below:

- [Senate Bill 779](#), Study & Abate Ocular Melanoma/Funds
- [Senate Bill 780](#), Improve Pipeline Safety
- [Senate Bill 781](#), Funds for Smithville Community Development Corporation
- [Senate Bill 799](#), Funds for Huntersville Affordable Housing

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