

**\*\*\*SPAM\*\*\* For Immediate Release**



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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Greetings:**

*This week was one to take a large breath. Creating legislation for residents of North Carolina is hard, because not all laws represent all people. No matter what your party affiliation is, someone will feel left out or overlooked. I do my best to vote the voices of my constituents, and although I get opposing voices, I try to choose the majority voice. I thank you all for the support I have received and hope to continue this support.*

*During our adjournment, my office will continue to be open. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you need assistance. If you receive this newsletter and know others that would like to receive it as well, please let my office know.*

*Joyce Waddell*

## Future Action

Coming into the short session many lawmakers had high hopes. Legislative leaders wanted to extend health care to more low-income residents, let people with cancer smoke prescribed pot, and reap millions by enabling people to use their phones to bet on their favorite sports teams. When the session adjourned Friday, the efforts had fallen apart.

Lawmakers did not expand Medicaid. They did not legalize medical marijuana. They did not approve online sports betting. The defeats were not the result of partisanship, but of intraparty gridlock among Republicans. Inaction sat largely at the hands of a handful of GOP leaders, particularly in the House, where some favored less ambitious versions of the bills or disagreed with the Senate's approach altogether. The policy unravelings came despite overwhelming support in polls for all three proposals.

Lawmakers still have the option to return later in the year, but key members signaled little appetite to go back to the negotiating table to address the unresolved issues.

Even top priorities for Republicans were not sent to the governor, including a bill to bar instruction materials for children from kindergarten through third grade related to sexual orientation or gender identity.

It's not unusual for major legislative priorities to be on the chopping block when lawmakers leave Raleigh, but this year's session appeared particularly contentious between the House and Senate leaders.

Democrats, meanwhile, are trying to prevent Republicans from gaining the supermajorities needed for the GOP to pass measures next year over the objection of the Governor. Democratic leaders hope frustration over the lack of Medicaid expansion and prospects of increased abortion restrictions will motivate voters. "If you really want to address the issues that are facing the state, you're going to have to change those who are setting the policy," said the top Senate Democratic leader.

I believe there is a way for all to have common ground so that we can pass good sound legislation, unfortunately, many do not want to do the necessary "sit and listen" timeout. It is important for our democracy that we attempt to do so in order for the voices of the people of North Carolina to be heard.

## Monkeypox Vaccine

With cases popping up throughout North Carolina, the federal government is buying additional doses of monkeypox vaccine from a Morrisville headquartered company. Bavarian Nordic will deliver over 2 million doses of the vaccine later this year, according to the Department of Health and Human Services.

The vaccine is known by the brand name JYNNEOS, and was originally developed for smallpox. The World Health Organization has said supplies of the vaccine are extremely limited. DHHS says there are 65,000 doses of JYNNEOS in its Strategic National Stockpile, with another 300,000 arriving "in the coming days."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there are confirmed monkeypox cases in North Carolina and over 450 nationwide. Other countries including the U.K. and Germany have begun vaccinating people at high risk of monkeypox. The FDA approved JYNNEOS in the U.S in 2021.

**Don't Forget to Vote!!!**

Please go vote in the July municipal elections. This year's election is for Charlotte Mayor & City Council.

## ***Senator Waddell Helps With Voting***

*Senator Waddell helps to hang voter reminders on doors in the community to remind of early voting which is taking place now.*



Senator Waddell is working tirelessly for Senate District 40, but she cannot do this alone. Many of her precincts have changed which makes the election much more competitive. In November she will have an opponent running against her. Can she count on your help to continue working for the district?

**CLICK HERE TO**

**DONATE \$25; \$50; \$100; \$250  
OTHER AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

*With summer in full swing, please stay safe and if you are traveling take a big suitcase of patience with you. Delays are all around, whether at gas stations or airports.*

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