

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



From Sen. Joyce Waddell <joyce.waddell@ncleg.net>
To <sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org>
Reply-To <anita.bennett@ncleg.gov>
Date 2022-08-01 14:08



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, August 01, 2022
Volume 32

CONTACT: Sen. Joyce Waddell
(919) 733-5650
Joyce.Waddell@ncleg.net
<https://joycewaddell4nc.com/>



Greetings:

Senator Waddell participated and engaged in community meetings throughout the district. There were no legislative meetings in Raleigh this past week. There are a few scheduled within the coming weeks, and I will keep you posted.

Joyce Waddell

Biomedical Push

There is a big push from North Carolina lawmakers for a major federal biomedical facility to be headquartered in the state. In a letter written to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, members of North Carolina’s Congressional Delegation urged the agency to make their state the headquarter for the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health. ARPA-H was a proposal from the United State’s President to improve the country’s ability to speed up biomedical and health research.

The center would focus on making breakthroughs in the way the U.S. prevents, treats, and cures a range of diseases including cancer, infectious diseases, and Alzheimer’s disease. Its creation was signed into law in March.

The state is not alone in its bid to call the center home. There is competition with Georgia, Massachusetts, Ohio, and Pennsylvania who have also thrown their hat in the ring to headquarter ARPA-H. It’s unclear when or how DHHS will appoint a headquarters for the facility. It is also unknown when the center will open.

Community Participation

Senator Waddell participates in a Liberian Community Association of Charlotte event. Attendees gathered to give congratulations at The Republic of Liberia’s 175th Independence Day gala celebration.



Nursing Shortage

Nursing shortages are leading some hospitals to take drastic measures. Some hospitals in NC have announced that they are temporarily suspending operations of its ICU. Patients are being encouraged to go to other hospitals for care.

The Association of Nurses explains there are pipeline challenges in recruiting new workers. There are limited number of seats in nursing schools because of faculty availability.

Technology Camp

Senator Waddell spoke to JROTC students that attended a technology camp about the importance of cyber security.



Gun Violence

Police chiefs from around the state met Monday with the Governor and Attorney General to discuss gun violence, and to share a laundry list of police force needs. Many chiefs say their departments are struggling to recruit and retain quality officers, and to deal with the mental health issues that they say are at the root of so many calls for service. Some have expressed interest in co-responder policing, where a mental health professional accompanies officers on certain calls.

The Governor and Attorney General reiterated their calls for stricter gun laws during the listening session, and particularly for red flag laws, which allow a judge, once convinced someone is a danger to themselves or others, to temporarily take that person's guns. The Attorney General said North Carolina should raise the age to buy a semi-automatic rifle, including AR-15's, from 18 years old to 21. He noted 18 year olds cannot buy alcohol, but they can buy high-powered rifles used in so many mass shootings.

The chiefs had a number of requests including:

- Tougher penalties for firing a gun, even if no one is injured.
- State-funded incentives to help police departments attract and retain officers.
- More willingness from the state Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission to revoke liquor licenses at establishments with frequent problems. Several chiefs complained that owners are able to get those licenses back, or they simply find someone else to put their name on the license and reopen.

Bail reform. Several chiefs said they'd like to see more uniformity in the bonds magistrates set, as well as higher bonds in some cases.

The issue cited most often: mental health. The chiefs repeatedly said they need more and better options to deal with people in a mental health crisis, beyond arresting them or taking them to the emergency room.

Local Watch Party

Senator Waddell joins community leaders and other legislators at a watch party for local Mecklenburg County elections.



Residents of Precinct 33

Senator Waddell joined residents and friends of precinct 33 who came out for election conversations and fellowship.

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 \$ _____**

COVID is making a big comeback in North Carolina. Although many free testing sites throughout North Carolina are being shut down, you can still use the free in-home kits or make appointments at some locations to receive a test.

By masking and washing hands, you can drastically reduce the likelihood of testing positive. Please be sure to continue to be safe.

###

Sen. Joyce Waddell, District 40 | 1113 Legislative Building, Raleigh, NC 27601

[Unsubscribe sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org](mailto:sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by joyce.waddell@ncleg.net powered by



Try email marketing for free today!