

## 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:

### *Celebrating Black History Month*

*The month of February was picked for Black History Month because it contained the birthdays of President Abraham Lincoln and [Frederick Douglass](#). Lincoln was born on Feb. 12, and Douglass, a former slave who did not know his precise birthday, celebrated his date of birth on Feb. 14.*

*Last week was full of committee meetings. Tuesday through Thursday the Joint Appropriations on Education/Higher Education Committee met and Wednesday and Thursday Rules and Operations of the Senate met.*

*We had a voting session on Thursday for SB 41 - [Guarantee 2nd Amend Freedom and Protections](#).*

***Joyce Waddell***

## Senate Bills

### **SB 41 - Guarantee 2nd Amend Freedom and Protections**

SB 41 is an act to authorize concealed carry permit holders to carry firearms on certain school property at certain times and to authorize concealed carry for certain law enforcement facility employees, to repeal pistol purchase permits, and to launch a statewide firearm safe storage awareness initiative to educate the public about the importance of the safe storage of firearms and to facilitate the distribution of gun locks.



### ***HBCU Students***

*Senator Waddell is talking to HBCU students about the importance of a higher education.*

## **HBCU Caucus Celebrates the NCCU Football team**

*The NCCU football team was being celebrated for becoming NATIONAL CHAMPIONS. North Carolina Central University defeated Jackson State 41-34 in overtime to win the Cricket Celebration Bowl .*



## Teacher Certification

North Carolina also ranks first nationally in the percentage of all teachers who have earned board certification, with nearly one-quarter (23 percent) of all teachers in the state holding the certification. The State Superintendent said the national board certification is a testament to high quality instruction provided in schools across North Carolina.

Nationally, a total of 130,493 teachers have earned board certification, with North Carolina accounting for nearly 18 percent of all nationally certified teachers. Teachers in North Carolina who achieve certification receive a 12% salary supplement to their regular pay. They also are awarded eight continuing education credits (CEUs).

Pushing to the highest level possible is a great way to open additional opportunities for teachers. I am proud of our education system and encourage all educators to strive to accomplish this feat as well as others.



## ***Senator Waddell Receives Recognition***

Senator Waddell is interviewed and has received and awarded as a Living Archives Awardee. The Living Archives The Living Archives project is gathering, preserving, and sharing the stories of Mecklenburg County residents who navigated the COVID-19 virus. Begun in 2021, the project was re-launched in Spring 2022 with a renewed understanding that the COVID-19 experience was going to be on-going and complex.

## Democratic Party Leadership

The Democratic Party has new leadership. The 25-year-old activist has become the new chair of the North Carolina Democratic Party. Anderson Clayton, the Person County Democratic Party chair and president of the state party chairs' association was elected Saturday to a two-year term as party chair by the N.C. Democratic Party's Executive Committee.

Before Saturday's election, Clayton had talked about the need for the Democratic Party to do more in rural areas. Democrats did not field candidates in some rural areas in last year's election.

## **Charlotte's Local Labor Union**

*Senator Waddell speaks at the annual legislative breakfast of the Charlotte-Metrolina Labor Council about its legislative agenda and the needs of employees.*



## **COVID & Influenza Vaccinations**

With the COVID numbers going down in North Carolina, it appears that we are doing things right. And although we would like to see few to no numbers, we are placing COVID and the flu a virus to place in our rear view mirrors.

Keep doing what you are doing and hopefully soon there will not be a need to keep warning you about being safe.



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