

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:

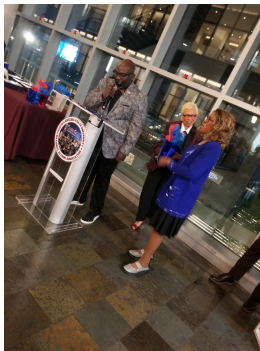
At the General Assembly
For the Week

Committee Meetings
Rules & Operations of the Senate
Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations Meeting

Joyce Waddell



Senator Waddell participates at the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations Meeting, where legislators held a hearing to determine the status of NCORR's progress, and inquire about policy changes for North Carolina residents that were affected by Hurricane Matthew and Florence.



Senator Waddell receives an Outstanding Alumni award from South Carolina State University.

Senate Bills

(Click on bill title to view bills in their entirety)

[SB 51](#) - Kayla's Act: Protecting Dom. Violence Victims. An act to modify laws pertaining to domestic violence, to be known as Kayla's act: protecting victims of domestic violence.

[SB 90](#) - Searches of Student's Person. An act to standardize the procedures for searching students in public school units.

[SB 193](#) - Career Development Plans. An act to provide for career development plans for all middle and high school students.

[SB 239](#) - Reduce Barriers to State Employment. An act to reduce barriers to state employment.

These bills passed in the Senate and will move on to the House.

VETO OVERRIDE at the General Assembly

SB 41 - was vetoed by the Governor.

Veto Override

The Republican-controlled General Assembly successfully blocked the governor's veto Wednesday in a vote.

It's the first time the House voted in favor of overturning a veto from the Governor since 2019, in a surprise budget vote. But unlike with that dramatic moment, this time Republicans successfully overrode the Governor's veto, since the Senate had voted to override the gun bill a day earlier.

I believe that those who have been vetted should be able to own firearms. I am sure most North Carolinians believe the same thing. I think by eliminating strong background checks, in light of the recent events that included firearms, many would agree that we have to start being more sensible. By overriding this legislation, we allow many, even those with mental health conditions, to purchase firearms.

Remote Testimony

The Senate passed a bill Tuesday allowing victims of domestic violence to testify remotely against their abusers.

The bill, "Kayla's Act," was passed in honor of Kayla Hammonds, a North Carolina woman who was murdered. Hammonds had been afraid to testify against her ex-boyfriend in court when she filed protective orders against him. He was later charged with her murder.

This bill allows victims a safe place for victims of domestic violence to be able to testify against folks who have been their abusers.

The bill would also increase the statute of limitation for crimes of domestic violence from two years to 10.

The Senate passed the bill unanimously. It will now be sent to the House.

COVID Vaccinations

Getting vaccinated is easy and still at no cost. As we go into the spring make sure your vaccines are up to date. If you need to know who is still vaccinating for COVID, please contact the local health department.

Influenza and COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective, and free.



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