

*****SPAM*** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Senator Marcus's Statement on Vote to Override Governor's Veto of Senate Bill 20****From** Jessica Bolin (Sen. Natasha Marcus) <Jessica.Bolin@ncleg.gov>**Date** 2023-05-16 18:33

Sen Marcus SB20 Veto Statement.pdf (~231 KB)

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Senator Marcus's Statement on Vote to Override Governor's Veto of Senate Bill 20

Raleigh, NC – State Senator Natasha Marcus (D-Mecklenburg) spoke on the Senate floor and provided the following statement following today's vote to override Governor Cooper's veto of Senate Bill 20:

"I remember when I believed that the Republican party stood for small government and personal freedom. We can debate exactly when that changed but given their willingness to do this to North Carolina's women and girls, to make SB20 the law here, it's clear they cannot claim to stand on those principles anymore.

This bill will harm women and girls, our health, our status in society, and our ability to plan our families and careers. It undermines our ability to trust that our government cares about what happens to us, trusts us to make our own decisions, or values our lives, our contributions, our humanity. This bill is a slap in the face, a muzzle over our mouths, and a straitjacket on our bodies.

SB20 is a flawed, draconian bill that was drafted in secret and introduced in a way to minimize comment and debate from both Democratic legislators and the public. It is unthinkable and cruel that Republicans are forcing women and girls who are often in difficult situations already, into even worse situations -- more rushed, more stressful, more expensive -- and in many cases, effectively making it impossible for them to access abortion, forcing them to carry a pregnancy against their will and /or despite the health risks.

I proudly stood with my Democratic colleagues and healthcare professionals, women, and allies across the state and voted NO to on the motion override Governor Cooper's veto. I am deeply disappointed that not a single Republican expressed opposition to this harmful bill and hope SB20 will be stopped at the last moment by the House."

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