

For Immediate Release



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From the Office of Sen. Joyce Waddell, NC Senate
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Greetings:

At the General Assembly
For the Week

Last week I participated in activities and community events throughout District 40. Within the next couple of months, the General Assembly will be back in session to close out the short session.

Joyce Waddell

Education Economics

North Carolina aims to boost innovation to sustain its path toward economic prosperity, as highlighted in a recent report from the North Carolina Department of Commerce's Office of Science, Technology, and Innovation. The "Tracking Innovation" report, released on July 29, shows that while the state is making strides in enhancing its innovation capacity compared to the rest of the nation, ongoing efforts are essential to maintain this momentum.

The importance of fostering innovation to ensure the state's economic prosperity involves consistently innovating by developing and adopting new products, services, and business models that add value and enhance economic well-being.

North Carolina matches or exceeds the national average in about half of the measured categories, reflecting a healthy statewide innovation ecosystem. Since the early 2000s, the state's progress has been on par with national trends.

The state is now focusing on scaling and commercializing innovations, with an emphasis on ensuring that all sectors and regions actively participate in and benefit from these initiatives. This strategic approach will help maximize the impact of innovation across the entire state.

I feel that it is imperative that all factions of the state invest resources in education. We grow stronger as a state when education is a priority. By increasing innovation in our corporations and other businesses, our state becomes more able to compete globally.



Democratic Convention Watch Party

Senator Waddell presents information to convention watch party participants regarding expectations for the upcoming election.

Vehicle Registration

North Carolina residents can now renew their vehicle registration at self-service kiosks provided by the Department of Motor Vehicles, available at select locations. The North Carolina DMV currently operates three kiosks statewide, located in Charlotte, Raleigh, and Fayetteville. These kiosks aim to reduce wait times and lines at DMV offices by offering certain services directly to residents.

Initially, the kiosks allowed users to renew or duplicate driver's licenses or IDs and register to vote. However, as of Monday, Aug. 12, the services offered at these kiosks have expanded.

Users can now also renew vehicle registrations and pay property taxes on new vehicles. Upon completing the transaction, the kiosk will print a license plate sticker and registration card on the spot.

NCDMV Commissioner expressed his enthusiasm for the new offerings, highlighting the department's efforts to use technology to improve customer service.

Since the kiosks were launched, they have facilitated over 3,400 transactions.

By making registration of our vehicles easier, our DMV can continue to focus on ensuring that standing in lines for more difficult issues becomes more efficient and faster.

NC General Assembly

Visit www.ncleg.gov, the official website of the North Carolina General Assembly. Use this website as a tool to track bills, find and communicate with your state representatives, as well as follow chamber activity, meetings and issues before the General Assembly.

You can view bills in full by visiting www.ncleg.gov.



