

For Immediate Release



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

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Greetings:

Last week the General Assembly passed 7 bills in the Senate.

S101: Protect Certain Tax-Advantaged Accounts - An act to increase protections for funds held in education savings and investment accounts and able accounts from claims of creditors and other judgments.

S124: Reduce Barriers to State Employment - An act to reduce barriers to state employment.

S254: Establish Offense for Poss. of Explosive - An act to establish a criminal offense for possessing certain explosive or incendiary devices or material.

S307: Info. Rights of Estate/Death of LLC Member - An act to create special economic interest owners of limited liability companies and to grant them information rights and standing to seek judicial dissolution.

S321: Accounting Workforce Development Act - An act to modify the educational and experience requirements for certification as a certified public accountant.

Confirmations of Cabinet Members

S224: Gabriel Esparza/Secretary of DOA.

S260: Confirm Dr. Devdutta Sangvai/DHHS.

Joyce Waddell

State Hires

SB 124 is advancing through the North Carolina legislature and could broaden access to thousands of unfilled state government positions by easing education and experience requirements, making it easier for people to apply and get hired.

The proposal comes as state agencies struggle to recruit and retain staff. More than 14,300 positions remain vacant across departments, leading to delays in services such as DMV appointments, safety inspections, and access to mental health care.

The Senate recently approved the bill, which now moves to the House. The idea is to make more positions accessible to candidates with community college training, military service, trade certifications, or equivalent work backgrounds.

I believe that it is important to make extended assessments to determine pushes for a reassessment of how much previous experience is truly needed for various state roles. Lawmakers believe many of these jobs can be done effectively by qualified individuals who don't fit traditional academic profiles.

The legislation passed the Senate unanimously with no debate.

Senate Bill 370

State lawmakers are once again addressing the issue of certificate-of-need (CON) rules, a key regulatory framework that governs health care competition in North Carolina.

One of the factors complicating the debate this year is a ruling from the North Carolina Supreme Court, which allowed a lawsuit to proceed that could potentially lead to the statewide invalidation of the CON laws on constitutional grounds.

Overall, the ongoing debate over the future of the CON system highlights the deep divisions within the healthcare industry and the challenges lawmakers face in balancing competition, access, and cost containment in the state's healthcare system.



NC Pharmacists

Senator Waddell discusses upcoming legislation with a group of Pharmacists from all over North Carolina regarding the merits of the bill.



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.

Please don't forget to consider getting vaccinated. There are viruses and other illnesses plaguing our community that can be prevented by vaccines and proper handwashing.



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