

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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Chapter VI
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Greetings:

The General Assembly used last week to take a short break after the vote from the House of Representatives on the budget the Senate created.

Below is a detailed step by step process of how North Carolina creates its 2 year budget.

Joyce Waddell

The North Carolina state budget process is a structured, collaborative effort involving the executive and legislative branches, designed to ensure a balanced and effective allocation of public resources. Here is an overview of how the process unfolds:

1. Budget Preparation by the Governor

- **Agency Requests:** State agencies submit budget requests to the Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM), detailing their financial needs for the upcoming biennium.
- **Governor's Recommended Budget:** The OSBM evaluates these requests and assists the Governor in preparing a comprehensive budget proposal. This proposal includes:
 - **Base Budget:** Funds necessary to continue existing services.
 - **Change Budget:** Adjustments for new initiatives or program expansions.
 - **Capital Improvement Budget:** Allocations for infrastructure and facility projects.
- **Balanced Budget Requirement:** The North Carolina Constitution mandates that the proposed budget must be balanced, meaning projected revenues must equal or exceed planned expenditures.

2. Legislative Review and Adoption

- **General Assembly Sessions:** North Carolina operates on a biennial budget cycle, with the General Assembly convening in a "long session" during odd-numbered years to draft and pass a two-year budget. In even-numbered years, a "short session" is held to make necessary adjustments.
- **House and Senate Proposals:** Both chambers of the General Assembly review the Governor's proposal and may develop their own budget versions, reflecting their priorities.
- **Conference Committee:** If there are differences between the House and Senate budgets, a conference committee comprising members from both chambers is formed to reconcile discrepancies and produce a unified budget.
- **Final Approval:** The reconciled budget is presented as a conference report, which cannot be amended. Both chambers must approve the report for it to proceed.



Budget Conversation

Senator Waddell reviews budget requests from a Mecklenburg County advocacy group.

Senator Joyce Waddell and Mecklenburg Delegation to Host Community Listening Session

Charlotte, NC — Senator Joyce Waddell, representing North Carolina Senate District 40, in collaboration with fellow members of the Mecklenburg County Legislative Delegation, invites the public to a community listening session.

Event Details:

- **Date: Saturday, June 14, 2025**
- **Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**
- **Location: Allegra Westbrooks Regional Library**
- Community Room B
- 2412 Beatties Ford Road
- Charlotte, NC 28216

This session offers constituents an opportunity to engage directly with their state legislators, discuss pressing issues, and share insights on matters affecting the Mecklenburg community. Topics may include education, healthcare, public safety, economic development, and other legislative priorities.

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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