

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:

The General Assembly held session last week and voted on thirteen bills last week. You can expect to see a flurry of bills in the next couple of weeks in attempt to create a statewide budget.

Joyce Waddell

Social Work Licensure Compact

House Bill 231 would allow North Carolina to join the Social Work Licensure Compact, enabling licensed social workers to practice across state lines in any other member state without needing a separate license. The bill establishes guidelines for participation, including eligibility criteria for social workers (e.g., holding an unencumbered license, passing background checks, and meeting continuing education requirements) and responsibilities of member states (e.g., sharing disciplinary information, recognizing multi-state licenses, and enforcing Compact rules).

I proudly support bills that prioritize the needs of our communities—bills that expand access to healthcare, improve educational opportunities, strengthen public safety, and promote economic development. Legislation that uplifts families, addresses disparities, and invests in people is essential to building a stronger, more equitable North Carolina. When we pass laws that truly serve the public good, we move closer to creating communities where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

Listening Session

Senator Waddell alongside nine other legislators with the Mecklenburg Delegation hosted a listening session at the Allegra Westbrook Library for the community. The event allowed the legislators to hear from constituents and give the community a chance to interact with their elected legislators.



Police Benefits

In response to widespread law enforcement staffing shortages, the North Carolina General Assembly passed a bill allowing veteran officers to continue serving without losing their retirement benefits. The legislation, which received unanimous support in both chambers, would let officers delay retirement and still receive the “special separation allowance” once they eventually leave the force. This benefit, previously forfeited if officers remained on duty past eligibility, would now be paused rather than lost. The measure aims to retain experienced law enforcement personnel, particularly chiefs and command staff, who wish to stay beyond retirement eligibility.

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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