# 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 will be in session next week. Based on the information provided to the Senate minority leadership, the Senate will be taking up bills that were vetoed.*

***Joyce Waddell***

## *Community Event*

*Senator Waddell presents a Senatorial Proclamation to a Liberian Organization in celebration of July 26 marking the anniversary of Liberia's Independence Day, commemorating the establishment of Africa's first republic founded on the principles of liberty, self-determination, and democracy.*

# Food Banks Facing Strain Amid Federal Budget Cuts

Food banks across the Carolinas are feeling growing pressure as federal budget cuts threaten to disrupt nutritional support for millions of Americans.

At the start of 2025, a $1 billion federal freeze cut off money used to purchase food directly from farmers. This month, further strain came when the One Big Beautiful Bill Act reduced funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), forcing more families to turn to emergency food services.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), which supplies food through funding for food banks also included nearly $7 billion in agricultural funding cuts, following a previous $500 million reduction to U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) food assistance programs.

While the USDA argues the cuts are necessary to reduce waste and control government spending, food banks across the region fear the impact will be devastating for families who depend on them to put food on the table.

I believe that in times of challenge, the true strength of a community shines when neighbors help neighbors. Every small act of kindness—sharing a meal, lending a hand, or offering words of encouragement—creates a ripple of hope that lifts us all. Together, we can ensure that no one faces hardship alone and that our community grows stronger through compassion and care for one another.

## 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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