

For Immediate Release



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Date 2025-09-01 19:04



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, September 1, 2025
Chapter VI
Volume 35

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Greetings:

I am honored to continue to connect with you through this newsletter. Each edition is an opportunity to share updates on the work being done in the Senate, highlight important issues that affect our communities, and celebrate the progress we are making together. Thank you for your continued engagement and commitment to building a stronger North Carolina.

Joyce Waddell

**Morven McRae
High School
Reunion**

*Senator Waddell gives the
welcome address to members
attending the high school
reunion.*



Unused Funds

In late August 2025, North Carolina officials revealed the discovery of \$170 million in state funds that had been sitting in an account with an institutional cash management firm, unknown to current administrators.

The account was originally established about 25 years ago to hold leftover or unused capital funds. Money from under-budget construction projects or accrued interest during project delays would be placed there.

Officials emphasized that the money was never lost. Because the funds had been appropriated for capital projects, their use is limited under state law.

The recent discovery of \$170 million in unused state funds is a positive development, as these resources will now be directed toward paying down debt, reducing future interest costs, and strengthening North Carolina's financial capacity for upcoming projects.



Nature Museum

Senator Waddell and other members of the Mecklenburg Delegation participates in a tour of the construction of the Nature Museum.

The purpose of this tour was an opportunity to take you through the site and provide a feel for what the new Charlotte Museum of Nature will provide for the region upon its re-opening.

Solar Funding Halted

North Carolina has paused a federally funded initiative intended to expand access to solar power for low-income households after federal officials announced the program's cancellation. It remains unclear whether the state or others will be required to return funds already spent.

The initiative, known as Solar for All, was part of a national clean energy investment strategy created under the Inflation Reduction Act.

North Carolina applied for \$250 million and, in 2024, received more than \$156 million to be used over five years. The program, administered by the state Department of Environmental Quality under the name EnergizeNC, partnered with energy-focused organizations to determine how the funds would be deployed. Planned efforts included rooftop solar installations for individual homes and community-scale systems for multifamily housing.

The state Department of Environmental Quality has acknowledged receipt of a federal notice of termination and is reviewing its options.



Legislative Update

Senator Waddell gives a legislative update to attendees held at Statesville Avenue Presbyterian Church.

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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