

Request for Remote Public Input for House Select Committee on COVID-19 Public Comments Report - LINC

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
04/06/2020 03:14 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mary Ann Pagano	<p>At this time of extreme financial distress due to historically unprecedented unemployment triggered by the COVID-19 crisis, it is imperative that we protect North Carolinians' ability to meet their basic needs through an expanded unemployment insurance program.</p> <p>Ways to do this (per NC Justice Center): Use the average of the two highest quarters in the calculation of workers' benefits. Remove the cap of \$350 on the maximum weekly benefit; calculate based on the average weekly wages in the state. Eliminate the waiting week so that dollars are immediately available. Ensure workers can receive benefits for 26 weeks, which is the national standard.</p>
04/06/2020 04:02 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Mary Parry	<p>North Carolinians are losing their jobs in surprisingly high numbers. With this unprecedented unemployment caused by the COVID-19 crisis, we must work quickly to protect the ability of our unemployed to meet basic needs by expanding the unemployment insurance program. We must move quickly to make sure the people of North Carolina are protected in this way during this pandemic. Thank you.</p>
04/06/2020 04:17 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Karen Fixsen	<p>We must expand in employment insurance in scope and amount if we hope to recover economically</p>
04/06/2020 04:36 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Chair Cedar Grove Precien Vivian Herndon-Latta	<p>Voting my mail will be good in view of COVID-19.</p>
04/06/2020 04:42 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Dr. Paul Price	<p>I support the following changes to the NC unemployment insurance program.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use the average of the two highest quarters in the calculation of workers' benefits. 2. Remove the cap of \$350 on the maximum weekly benefit; calculate based on the average weekly wages in the state. 3. Eliminate the waiting week so that dollars are immediately available. <p>I am willing to have my taxes raised to achieve this goals. Ensure workers can receive benefits for 26 weeks, which is the national standard.</p>
04/06/2020 04:56 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Susan Fowler	<p>At this time of extreme financial distress due to historically unprecedented unemployment triggered by the COVID-19 crisis, it is imperative that we protect North Carolinians' ability to meet their basic needs through an expanded unemployment insurance program.</p>
04/06/2020 04:57 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Keith Luck	<p>With millions of people out of work, either by layoffs or furlow, it is imperative that an expanded unemployment insurance program protect North Carolinians' ability to meet their basic needs. Several important steps: Eliminate the \$350 cap on maximum weekly benefits, use state average weekly wages to calculate benefits, elimiinat the waiting period and make sure that workers receive benefits for 26 weeks, which is the national standard.</p>
04/06/2020 05:00 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Melissa Dean	<p>We need to protect North Carolinians' ability to meet their basic needs through an expanded unemployment insurance program.</p> <p>Ways to do this (per NC Jiustice Center): Use the average of the two highest quarters in the calculation of workers' benefits. Remove the cap of \$350 on the maximum weekly benefit. Increase the number of weeks</p>

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			that benefits are available.
			Thank you Melissa Dean
04/06/2020 05:00 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Carol Prokop	Support expansion of Unemployment Insurance!
04/06/2020 05:04 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Eric Riley	THE TIME IS NOW FOR YOU REP. TIM MOORE AND YOU SENATOR PHIL BERGER to call a session of the NC General Assembly to rescind Cooper's order and open up North Carolina for business on April 12, 2020. Once that is done – it is your duty to ELIMINATE the political discretion of Democrat towns and counties to promote the socialist agenda by using G.S. 166-A in BOGUS emergency situations. We small business are dying out here and we need your help more then ever. Please show us how you'll stand up for NC citizens – how you'll face odds and show your courage to do the right thing. If not you all – then who? There is no one else! Oh, and I'm ready to start worshipping again with my church family on Sunday's and Wednesday's.....
04/06/2020 05:47 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Jean Hamilton	North Carolina needs to expand and provide easier access to its unemployment insurance program in order to make sure that people's basic needs are met. This will support the long run health of our economy as well as the supporting people in the short run.
04/06/2020 05:53 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Graciela Vidal	With the number of unemployed people skyrocketing in the past couple of months, the expansion of unemployemet insurance is a must. The Federal is not going to do enough to help people in need. It's up to the State to respond.
04/06/2020 06:41 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mike Gilliom	There are too many people who do gig work, who are not covered by the first congressional aid act, who need help, who need to get healthcare and income, so that they can stay at home and isolated, so that the rest of us can be safe.
04/06/2020 06:43 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Jo Ann Amey	With so many North Carolinians hurting and unable to work due to the novel coronavirus, it is imperative that the General Assembly support them in any way possible, namely with paid sick leave for themselves and their family members and improved access to unemployment benefits. The unemployed need these benefits to begin as soon as their jobs end and to extend as long as necessary as the state slowly recovers from this unprecedented disaster.
04/06/2020 06:52 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Kathy Jooss	I support and want to see North Carolina provide paid sick days, family leave and unemployment benefits to all. I support getting economic relief to those most impacted by COVID-19 as soon as possible.
04/06/2020 07:19 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Lamar Proctor	I support a UBI for all citizens as well as decoupling health insurance from employment. At a minimum, I support expanded unemployment benefits for North Carolinians put out of work by COVID-19.
04/06/2020 07:35 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Dr. Nancy Friedman	We should be supporting working families. Workers should have paid sick days, family leave and full unemployment benefits. This is particularly important to provide economic relief to those impacted by the Covid 19 pandemic. Providing relief now will be a boon to our economy when we are over this current crisis.
04/06/2020 08:21 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Dr. Donell Kerns	Unemployment is skyrocketing in NC. Many people are without incomes. I urge you to protect NC families by providing paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment

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			benefits for all. Sincerely, Donell Kerns
04/07/2020 05:08 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Karen Mallam	You need to be sure that you provide for sick leave, full unemployment, and family care leave for all North Carolinians during this time of pandemic. You must also assure that direct economic support is provided to those most impacted by the coronavirus, especially those in poverty.
04/07/2020 08:46 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Anita Goetz	Dear Representatives: Please consider setting aside funding for infrastructure projects to boost local economies and address critical needs for better environmental protection and conservation of natural resources. In particular, please authorize funding for NC Division of Water Resources projects to address water quality, infrastructure, and property protection. Also please authorize funding for permanent protection and restoration of our waterways; to increase opportunities for recreation; and add lands to existing conservation lands for public use and enjoyment. Thank you..
04/07/2020 09:18 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Julie Albert	PLEASE protect all North Carolina workers and communities: • provide paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all • provide economic relief to those most impacted by COVID-19
04/07/2020 10:34 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Debra Kaufman	I urge you to expand the NC unemployment insurance program. Our benefits fall far below those of most other states. The NC Justice Center has several recommendations on how to achieve this. These changes are long overdue, and the current crisis shows in a harsh light how far our state has to go to help those most in need. Use the average of the two highest quarters in the calculation of workers' benefits. Remove the cap of \$350 on the maximum weekly benefit; calculate based on the average weekly wages in the state. Eliminate the waiting week so that dollars are immediately available. Ensure workers can receive benefits for 26 weeks, which is the national standard.
04/07/2020 10:51 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Vickie Atkinson	It is crucial that we provide paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all and economic assistance to those most impacted by the COVID19 pandemic
04/07/2020 11:26 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Herbert Amey	I want to tell the House Select Committee on COVID-19 (Economic Support working group) to protect all North Carolina workers and communities: * provide paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all * provide economic relief to those most impacted by COVID-19
04/07/2020 11:29 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Robin Leto	Please support the expansion of unemployment insurance and economic support for people out of work due to Covid-19 as well as requiring employers to provide sick pay for their ill workers. This will help prevent the spread of covid-19 and will keep our economy going because people will have money to spend.
04/07/2020 11:34 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Unemployment insurance Carolyn I Leith	Families are suffering and the state needs to act now. As huge sectors of our economy have been told to shut up shop for a good cause, the state needs to do it's part and support these people who can no longer work. I think it would've been better if our federal government had elected to deliver funds to businesses who intern would've paid their workers, But since that didn't happen we need to make the unemployment insurance system get money to these people a SAP! As a citizen I would expect this would be done with care and caution to prevent fraud, but you can do it! Make it work! And don't keep

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04/07/2020 03:02 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Dena Papazoglou	these poor workers waiting! To the House Select Committee on COVID-19 (Economic Support working group). I urge you to protect all North Carolina workers and communities in the following critical ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all • provide economic relief to those most impacted by COVID-19
04/07/2020 03:17 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Elizabeth Kawabata	Please protect all North Carolina workers and communities by enacting the following measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all (Some of the most essential employees in our society do not have these benefits. By taking care of them, we are taking care of everyone.) • provide economic relief to those most impacted by COVID-19
04/07/2020 04:30 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Reverend Ann Harrington	Drastic times demand drastic action. Go to your inner sanctuary and hear God's call to enable the citizens of this state to have their voting rights guaranteed by instituting internet voting.
04/07/2020 04:47 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Cheri DeRosia	We should provide economic relief to those most impacted by COVID-19. This should include paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all.
04/07/2020 07:30 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Chris Chato	Please work to provide paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all and to provide economic relief to those most impacted by COVID-19.
04/08/2020 08:23 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Nan Nixon	Thanks very much The ability of North Carolinians to meet their basic needs is under extreme challenge as we reach historic levels of unemployment as a direct impact of the COVID-19 crisis. To address this and avoid confusion, we need to expand the state's unemployment insurance program to improve both how it is offered and how the application process is communicated. Expanding UI will help ensure that unemployment itself does not further exacerbate the public health crisis. When an unemployed citizen cannot afford medical care, they are less likely to seek it, which is very likely to spread the disease among family and community members.
04/08/2020 11:42 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Donald Bryson	Donald Bryson, president and CEO of the Civitas Institute Keeping agriculture going despite coronavirus A few simple steps can aid North Carolina farmers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep open all farmers markets should remain open statewide, and local governments should waive municipal restrictions • Match the temporarily unemployed workers with farmers to address an acute farm labor shortage in North Carolina • Adopt the Small Dairy Sustainability Act (House Bill 103) One thing for which we should all be thankful for during the coronavirus pandemic is that our agricultural production and distribution system has continued to perform well so far. However, the virus' impact on some agricultural sectors could cause disruptions. These range from "food protectionism" (national governments hoarding food) to a potential drop

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			<p>in demand for American agricultural exports.</p> <p>While some of the problems concerning North Carolina's agricultural industry are beyond the scope of what the state government can (or should) do, there are actions the state can take to help farmers.</p> <p>Support farmers markets Gov. Roy Cooper was correct to put farmers markets in the same essential category as grocery stores in his March 27 stay-at-home order, either directly noting agricultural business or referencing the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's list of critical infrastructure sectors.</p> <p>Most farmers markets across the state have remained open. However, local governments have the authority under current rules to impose stricter stay-at-home orders, which can include agriculture infrastructure. Durham closed its farmers market two weeks ago, and, as coronavirus continues to spread over the next few weeks, other local governments may be tempted to follow Durham's lead.</p> <p>Most goods sold at farmers markets are locally produced, and many farmers depend on the income they earn there. Given the open-air nature of many farmers markets, they are at least as safe an option for food shopping as grocery stores - if social distancing is maintained. As such, the General Assembly should prevent local governments from shutting down farmers markets while grocery stores are still open.</p> <p>Gov. Cooper or the General Assembly should go a step further and urge counties and municipalities to waive restrictions temporarily on roadside, or "pop-up," farm stands. Doing so will increase the supply of fresh dairy, fruits, vegetables, and meat.</p> <p>Dealing with an anticipated farm labor shortage Being able to sell their products does not help farmers if they cannot get their crops out of the field. A shortage of farm laborers has impacted North Carolina farmers for the past several years. One way they have addressed that need is through the H-2A Temporary Agricultural Labor Program. In 2019, the US Department of Labor approved 21,605 H-2A farm laborer certifications for North Carolina farmers, the fifth-highest number of any state.</p> <p>In addition to the chronic labor shortage, North Carolina farmers must now deal with a new and acute shock to the farm labor market. Two weeks ago, the US Embassy in Mexico (the largest source of temporary agricultural workers) halted interviews for H-2A visas as part of an attempt to reduce coronavirus transmission risks. While the federal government is trying to address the problem, harvesting in Florida has already been disrupted by the shortage.</p> <p>North Carolina is also dealing with a huge number of the temporarily unemployed from coronavirus-related business closures. The economic disruption of those closures means that we will likely have elevated numbers of unemployed for months after all businesses are allowed to reopen.</p>

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			<p>That suggests at least a partial solution to both problems. The NC Department of Commerce's Division of Employment Security (which handles unemployment insurance in North Carolina) should work with the NC Department of Agriculture to develop an online farm employment portal and promote it both to the unemployed and agricultural employers. A similar system is currently under consideration in New York, and the French National Federation of Farmers' Union has already set up a similar online portal as France deals with its own coronavirus-related farm labor shortage.</p> <p>Farm work is physically demanding, and farmers often have a hard time keeping workers, even in times of high unemployment, so this would not completely solve farmers' labor shortage problems. However, matching farmers with people looking for short-term work could help to reduce the number of crops rotting in the field significantly.</p> <p>Adopt Small Dairy Sustainability Act COVID-19 has exposed supply and sourcing problems in retail markets. The two-way strain can be seen through several reports of dairy farmers being told to dump their supply at the same time that North Carolina grocers are rationing gallons of milk.</p> <p>While not a silver bullet, the Small Dairy Sustainability Act (House Bill 103), would provide a secondary supply and market for North Carolina dairy farmers through the sale of raw milk. If passed, North Carolina would join 30 other states that allow for the purchase of raw milk. The rules in other states vary from retail sales out of stores (such as in Pennsylvania and South Carolina) to direct farm-to-consumer sales (such as in Illinois and Texas).</p> <p>Current state law only allows for citizens to consume raw milk if they own part or all of a dairy herd. While herd shares are a recent improvement to state law, we can go a step further to provide fresh food to North Carolina families.</p> <p>Conclusion Coronavirus is highlighting food uncertainty in North Carolina. Reliance on antiquated supply chains and state restrictions are preventing many North Carolinians from having access to fresh food. There is an abundant supply of food in the Tar Heel State, and its farmers are ready to meet the challenge. The priority should be to remove barriers between consumers and North Carolina farms.</p>
04/08/2020 06:39 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Susan Hudson	<p>At this time of extreme financial distress due to historically unprecedented unemployment triggered by the COVID-19 crisis, it is imperative that we protect North Carolinians' ability to meet their basic needs through an expanded unemployment insurance program.</p> <p>Ways to do this (per NC Justice Center): Use the average of the two highest quarters in the calculation of workers' benefits. Remove the cap of \$350 on the maximum weekly benefit; calculate based on the average weekly wages in the state.</p>

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04/08/2020 08:40 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Bree Kalb	<p>Eliminate the waiting week so that dollars are immediately available. Ensure workers can receive benefits for 26 weeks, which is the national standard.</p> <p>Providing benefits that create a safety net for our most vulnerable is good for the entire state, making our entire society more stable. It's time to pass legislation that expands unemployment benefits and that provides strong incentives for employers to provide paid sick days and family leave.</p> <p>We also need to find a way to provide economic relief to those most impacted by COVID-19</p> <p>We really are all in this together and dependent on each other more than we realized.</p>
04/08/2020 09:59 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Pamela Wardell	My husband and I both have pre-existing health conditions. I would like to have no excuse absentee voting available for all NC voters.
04/09/2020 08:31 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Nan Friedman	Hi I would like to voice my support for paid sick leave for workers who get sick or have to care for someone who is sick. In reading about people with the corona virus, it sounds debilitating and impossible for sick people or their caretakers to also work. People in this situation should not lose their job or go unpaid. Also NC should be providing economic relief to people who have been affected by covid 19. Thank you
04/09/2020 10:38 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Shannon Colangelo	<p>I am a court reporter/notary public. I need to be able to give a witness an oath prior to taking their deposition testimony, which currently cannot be done remotely. If I am on a Zoom videoconference, due to the stay-at-home rule, I can be shown the ID and see the witness via the video conference and be able to identify that they are the correct person, the exact same way I would if in person. NC Court reporters have been screaming for help from offices of Secretary of State Elaine Marshall, Chief Justice Cheri Beasley, and even Governor Cooper for an emergency order allowing us to work remotely and it seems the only way is for the legislature to pass an order lifting the current restrictions of in-person-only notarial validation. Other states passed emergency orders allowing their court reporters to work remotely weeks ago. In North Carolina, we must be with the witness in person, which witnesses do not want due to risk of exposure to COVID-19, or take "unsworn testimony" remotely via videoconference or telephone, which attorneys would then be forced to struggle to have the transcript admitted at trial later to support their case, neither of which seems to be optimal as my depositions for the past 3 weeks have all cancelled.</p> <p>Please help freelance court reporters (public notaries) by issuing an order allowing the remote swearing of witnesses.</p>
04/09/2020 10:56 AM	Economic Support Working Group	CEO Tracy Scott	Hello. My name is Tracy Scott. I am in agreeance with the North Carolina Alliance for Health that funding needs to be put in place to ensure that programs to ensure no North Carolinian goes hungry. I recommend there be an inclusion to increase funding for Carolinas food banks and school nutrition programs, and removing barriers to accessing SNAP, WIC, and farmers markets. I would especially like to see these programs increase in areas designated as food deserts.
04/09/2020 10:59 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Samuel Stokes	Please help the poor people of NC! They are suffering!

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04/09/2020 11:45 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Nancy Jacobs	provide paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all • provide economic relief to those most impacted by COVID-19 It's important for all our residents get help with this if they need it. Otherwise so many people will suffer horribly.
04/09/2020 12:14 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Gillian Rogers	Please provide paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all during this unprecedented challenge of COVID-19. In addition, the state should provide economic relief to those most impacted by the pandemic. Federal help will not be enough for our working poor.
04/09/2020 12:22 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Gillian Rogers	Please make voting more accessible to all this year by doing the following: make voting by mail more available; increase public promotion of the absentee vote-by-mail option; ensure free return mail postage on absentee ballots. Our democracy and our constitutional right to vote depend on you. Citizens should not have to risk their lives standing in lines to vote. COVID-19 will still be a danger to us all in November.
04/09/2020 12:23 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mary Phillips	I support protecting NC workers by providing paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all.
04/09/2020 03:22 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Kristie Sluder	Small mom and pop landlord operations need to be considered as vulnerable populations. They are a large player in the rental market and rely on rent monies to pay their own Bill's. Relief for renters and or landlords should be considered so that stressed housing markets are put under more pressure.
04/09/2020 05:24 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Anne Hummel	This current Covid-19 crisis puts a bright light on many economic problems facing North Carolina's families right now, as they face rising debts and no financial relief from job loss. The State of NC should be providing direct economic relief to ALL workers whose jobs have been adversely impacted by COVID-19, including self-employed workers who are not currently eligible to collect unemployment benefits. In addition, all workers need AND DESERVE paid sick days, family leave time, and full unemployment benefits. Unequal treatment in the provision of these basic employment benefits for men and women who are working full-time is punitive, disrespectful, unfair, and discriminatory.
04/09/2020 05:32 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Eileen McCorry	Protect all North Carolina workers and communities. Specifically, provide: 1) paid sick days, family leave and full unemployment benefits for all 2) economic relief to those most impacted by COVID-19
04/10/2020 07:24 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Dr Brigid Hogan	I urge you to enable paid sick leave and family leave. There is strong evidence that over the long run this leads to increased economic productivity
04/10/2020 08:36 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Sharon Bushnell	According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Summary of Unemployment Insurance Statistics for the last quarter available, 4th Quarter of 2019, North Carolina's UI system provides too little in payments to too few jobless workers for too short a duration. The Trust Fund is solvent, and the state must put together plans to prepare for an economic downturn. It's time to restore the program to adequate levels for workers like we see in other states. This is critical to do given that the state's \$4 billion is more than double the reserve ratio recommended by the US DOL.
04/10/2020 11:38 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Bonnie McCarthy	I urge the House Select Committee on COVID-19 (Economic Support Working Group) to protect North Carolina workers and communities. You can do this by providing paid sick days, family leave and full unemployment benefits for all. In addition you can provide economic relief to those most impacted by COVID-19. It is essential to act quickly to get

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			workers and communities the relief they need in this most difficult time in our country. Thank you.
04/10/2020 12:18 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Taylor Saxe	Absolutely no support for small businesses that don't have a bank that do SBA loans for PPP. My 2 businesses will close for good due to this. Less tax revenue for government now! And I'll just draw unemployment.
04/10/2020 05:30 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Dr. Karl Strohminger	<p>My State Rep, Dr. Kristin Baker, recommended I share my thoughts with you all, following my personal communication with her. As I am an Industrial Psychologist, I will put my concerns in such terms. My concerns are for the economic well being of our people. Please read that as "economic WELL BEING:, meaning our economics determines our well being.</p> <p>Let's consider this in a rational, data driven, factual manner shall we? Check your emotions at the door, because yeah, all good decision start with fear....</p> <p>If the number of people who are infected with this virus goes up 700%, SEVEN.. HUNDRED...PERCENT.... It will still represent less than 1% of the US population. Given that the death toll is something like 3%, that means your chance of dying from this disease is less than .003%. OK, with me so far?</p> <p>Now, the US Chamber of Commerce says 1 in 4 small businesses will go bankrupt in this crisis. Small businesses and their employees make up 50% of the US work force, or, about 18%. Add to that the number of lay offs and down sizing, etc. that will happen, and one can easily see where the 20% figures of unemployment are coming from. The Great Depression saw a spike in unemployment at 24% in 1933, but mostly it hovered at 14%, meaning this will BE WORSE than the Great Depression. You want to be scared of something? Be afraid of that, my friends.</p> <p>Unemployment. In other words, new families in poverty. I'm a social scientist folks, with a lifetime in service carrying a badge and a gun, and three higher degrees, including a PhD. in psychology. I can tell you, the social ills and pain of poverty outmatch the minuscule chance of dying from this disease hundreds fold. Social ills such as destitution, bankruptcy, hunger, homelessness, depression, substance abuse, despair, domestic violence and suicide. You want an epidemic that will REALLY change the face of this country, wait until 20% of the population is dealing with fighting these demons off.</p> <p>But you go right on ordering us to stay home, believing everything a power encroaching government says, letting them manipulate us out of fear, destroying the very fabric of our society. Me? I'm going back to work.</p> <p>Respectfully submitted, Karl T. Strohminger, Ph.D. Concord, NC</p>
04/10/2020 09:59 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Charles Baker	It is time. We simply can not let the economy of our nation and our state be totally destroyed. Our focus should be to determine ways to protect people WHILE they work. Protection by isolation is not hard it's just expensive. Surely the minds of our leaders and our brilliant medical people can devise ways to enable us to work safely. There are

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			countless small businesses that may not survive now and certainly won't very much longer. Most attention has been given to protect businesses by covering employee expenses. That is good but it is the one-man businesses, mechanics, plumbers, barbers, landscapers, accountants etc who will not survive. And with billions.. no trillions.. of dollars being spent our very nation may nor survive. It is real money. It has to come from somewhere and it will have to be repaid. Make it your job. Get this state back to work. It is time!
04/10/2020 11:24 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Rachel Mills	We must reopen the state immediately. It's not realistic to stay locked down anymore. The models were wrong. They built social distancing in and it's still not even 100 deaths. The hospitals have been emptied out and now even they are starving. This is madness.
04/11/2020 09:44 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Gale Lackey	Please protect all NC workers and communities by providing paid sick days, family leave and full unemployment benefits for all. Also, provide economic relief to those most impacted by COVID-19.
04/11/2020 01:04 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Miss Greta Lint	I want to commend the state employees who have been working non-stop to fix the unemployment website and get it so freelancers can use it. Being able to access the site and use it has been a bloody nightmare. But, the website is not clear about one thing. For people who were not working 5 quarters ago, but were working when the virus hit and were laid off, ESC is sending letters that these people do not qualify for the \$600/week unemployment. That is wrong and needs to be clarified.
04/11/2020 04:16 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Anthony Carroll	I support providing paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all impacted workers, including "gig workers", as well as support for vulnerable small businesses.
04/11/2020 05:25 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Judith Graham	Covid 19 has been a major life disturbance to all. However, for many, it has been devastating. We MUST support the hardest hit workers and communities. This means sick leave and family leave for all. Plus economic support via all means, including unemployment benefits.
04/11/2020 07:27 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Donna Carroll	I support protecting all North Carolina workers and communities by 1) providing paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all; and 2) providing economic relief to those most impacted by COVID-19. Thank you.
04/11/2020 09:04 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Dr. Susan Gidwitz	Early and extensive economic support of workers affected by the pandemic are proven to save money in the long run. Please appropriate enough money to cover sick leave/family leave, unemployment insurance and other necessities brought on by Covid-19.
04/12/2020 11:07 AM	Economic Support Working Group	ms Nancy Jacobs	I support providing paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all impacted workers, including "gig workers", as well as support for vulnerable small businesses.
04/12/2020 11:32 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Gayle Ruedi	I support providing paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all impacted workers, including "gig workers", as well as support for vulnerable small businesses during the current COVID 19 health crisis. This is the minimum required response to help people survive this difficult economic time.
04/12/2020 01:22 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Mitchell Dwoskin	I support providing paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all impacted workers, including "gig workers", as well as support for vulnerable small businesses.
04/12/2020 01:22 PM	Economic Support	Mrs. Melissa Dwoskin	I support providing paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all

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	Working Group		impacted workers, including “gig workers”, as well as support for vulnerable small businesses.
04/12/2020 03:36 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Dr. Niranjana Parthasarathi	As a North Carolinian and physician, I feel strongly that all our workers and vulnerable small businesses deserve our support during this public health crisis. I thus support sick leave, paid family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all workers (including gig workers) affected by COVID-19. This support should be extended to small businesses impacted as well.
04/12/2020 05:01 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Rebecca Zerkin	Thank you for convening this committee and accepting public input. I encourage you to expand support for North Carolina workers by providing: paid sick days, family leave, full unemployment benefits, and economic relief to those most impacted by COVID-19.
04/12/2020 05:04 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms.Please Select Jamie Burnett	I support providing paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all impacted workers, including “gig workers”, as well as support for vulnerable small businesses.
04/12/2020 06:31 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Carla Lilley	We need to provide paid sick leave, family leave, full unemployment benefits to all workers—including gig workers, farm workers, anyone working but not making a living wage. In other words each and every person affected by this horrific pandemic. furthermore we have got to get to a Living Wage for all workers. And again, we have got to have more and more affordable housing and a system of rent control for the citizens of NC
04/12/2020 06:34 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Shannon Colangelo	Happy Easter! I hope you are all enjoying a nice holiday weekend. Are you planning to meet beyond this Tuesday 4/14? I would like someone to address enabling public notaries (specifically court reporters) to give an oath to witnesses remotely, via videoconference, in order to enable depositions to go forward in furtherance of cases set to be eventually heard, but most importantly to allow freelance court reporters (not official state employees on a government salary/pension) to continue to work, remotely, from home, in this current COVID-19 crisis.
04/12/2020 07:47 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Lisa Meeker	I support providing paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all impacted workers, including “gig workers”, as well as support for vulnerable small businesses.
04/13/2020 06:50 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Michael Kiernan	I support providing paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all impacted workers, including “gig workers”, as well as support for vulnerable small businesses.
04/13/2020 07:57 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Candice Davies	I support providing paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all impacted workers, including “gig workers”, as well as support for vulnerable small businesses.
04/13/2020 10:10 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Michael Pelz-Sherman	I support providing paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all impacted workers, including “gig workers”, as well as support for vulnerable small businesses.
04/13/2020 10:23 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Adam Love	I vehemently oppose the continued shutdown of our state and the unconstitutional executive orders currently in place. The data does not support the actions taken by our

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			<p>state government. As an American I have inalienable rights recognized by the Constitution granted by my Creator and these orders and arrests are in direct violation. As our representative, what are you doing to get NC back to work? We need to REOPEN NC now. Action taken now will directly influence how I vote in November. We demand our rights!</p> <p>I ask that you publicly call for a special session to reconvene the General Assembly prior to April 28 for the purpose of overturning Governor Cooper's stay-at-home orders.</p> <p>Adam Love Charlotte, NC</p>
04/13/2020 10:40 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Reid Limpert	Due to the flattening of the curve here in NC and the relative lack of impact the virus has made overall (from a health perspective at least), I feel it's definitely time to allow businesses and consumers to make their own choices by or before May 1.
04/13/2020 10:40 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Rachel Mills	It is not sustainable to continue this lockdown. It never should have been dealt with this way. This cannot be how we deal with bad flu seasons or viruses going around. The initial models this was all based on were faulty to the degree of fraud. There are still less than 100 deaths in NC, even though our social distancing is not perfect. Meanwhile we're looking at 30% unemployment and inevitable supply chain disruptions. This virus has a 0.35% fatality rate and our hospitals are discovering better treatments in real time, even as they are mostly devoid of patients and normal revenue. This MUST stop. We are flattening everything, and the "curve" was overblown to begin with. Reopen NOW.
04/13/2020 10:43 AM	Economic Support Working Group	REOPEN NC Sarah Leone	NC needs to open back up. The "cure" is creating far more problems than it is helping. The economic, mental, and financial health are only a few of the many dangers we're facing here in NC due to this shutdown that the numbers do not warrant. REOPEN NC!
04/13/2020 10:43 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Shannon Cline	The numbers didn't add up. We stayed home. Kept our kids home. Lost our jobs. It's time to #ReOpenNC.
04/13/2020 10:48 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Reopen NC Eileen Berry	Good morning, the shutdown of NC has gone on long enough. The devastation to small business owners is growing daily and many will not recover. The committee needs to understand that the projections that were used to justify the complete shutdown of our state are not bearing fruit and look for the economic future of the citizens of the State. Please reopen NC by May 1!
04/13/2020 10:50 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Johnathan Hughes	ReOpen NC. We cannot survive this any longer. The cure cannot be worse than the virus. This shut down is much worse. This is unconstitutional and must stop now.
04/13/2020 10:51 AM	Economic Support Working Group	John Altman	Open NC by loosening restrictions and making more regulations optional and not police enforced. Many of the policies you put in place are in violation of the US Constitution.
04/13/2020 10:52 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Esq Daniel Rufty	This shutdown is destroying my business. We need to reopen immediately. The deaths and risk of I jury are insignificant compared to other illnesses.
04/13/2020 10:53 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Milissa Acres	This is very simple, thanks to the digital world, all of the state of N. C. Can see all of the numbers, and the lack of numbers. And the number of healthcare workers laid off, and the number of beds and ventilators we have, and the number of deaths (that according to the CDC website) may or may be actually covid-19... in a state of 10m+ people... soon enough there will be looting and robberies as people become desperate to preserve what they

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			have worked hard to obtain.... OPEN. OUR.STATE.
04/13/2020 10:54 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Gina Schultz	<p>My husband and I are registered and active voters in North Carolina. We appreciate the tough decisions that have had to be made by our governor, but we both believe that we have accomplished what we set out to do, and our curve is flattened. We don't have many cases of covid-19 in our state, we don't have many deaths from covid-19 in our state and our hospitals are not being overburdened. We need to open our state back up! Make recommendations that those at high risk of dying from covid-19 continue to shelter at home, and set up a system for the state to take care of those people (food & medicine delivery etc), but let the rest of us get back to the business of cleaning up this recession we've created. The economic and mental health of our state is just as important as the physical health of our state. Please remove the restrictions on April 29th, adapt restrictions to protect those at high risk and RE OPEN NORTH CAROLINA!</p> <p>Sincerely, Gina & Daniel Schultz Clayton, NC</p>
04/13/2020 10:54 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Tammy Elaine Bentley	ReOpen NC. Call in the General Assembly NOW. Governor Cooper is killing our state economy and overstepping his authority. NC is not NYC. Afraid of a Republican Convention in Charlotte perhaps? We the people will also NOT be told we cannot attend church!!!! Mosques remain open. Liquor stores and abortion clinics are open but parks closed. Draconian and unconstitutional.
04/13/2020 10:54 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Tracey Arnone	Reopen NC May1... this cure is proven to be FAR worse than the cure... people are suffering economically... it's time to get back to work.... My health is my responsibility... stay home if your concerned!!!
04/13/2020 10:54 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Gretchen M Wood	I am greatly urging our Governor Cooper to begin to open our state. Let's not allow the cure to be worse than the cause. People working that want to but using masks and gloves. Many post have been made on using safe items at home for masks not purchased from stores. Let's bring back the working population. Thank you.
04/13/2020 10:55 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mary Jon Pabst	Please reopen NC ASAP using precautions and limits on numbers in stores. Ramifications will last long into the future if we don't do something now. Farmers will not be able to plant crops (food shortages). Doctors need to be able to complete surgeries and procedures (cancer txs , removal of tumors). The list goes on and on. This needs to start next week.
04/13/2020 10:56 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Selma Cherry	Open NC. People can work with their mask and gloves on or a bottle of hand sanitizer beside them. This is killing our economy and people out of work are hurting.
04/13/2020 10:57 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. John Cowan	Most of NC is today virus free, cloaures are simply political. We had no shortage of medical care, no mass deaths, only cities need to be closed, reopen NC except Charlotte today. Closures are taking food out of children's mouths for zero medical reason.
04/13/2020 10:57 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr DENNIS BURGARD	Our small business people are being devastated in North Carolina. The COVID19 numbers in our state do nut justify the current restrictions and closures.
04/13/2020 10:58 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr David Childers	Our state needs to reopen its economy! The real numbers around this virus do not warrant what has been done by our state government to shut down the livelihoods of North Carolinians and encroach on our freedoms and liberties as citizens. We are not

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			New York City and do not have the same exposure here in NC. With maybe noble first intentions - it has gotten to the point we are destroying our great state using data from models that have been shown to be grossly inaccurate. The economic and social damage being done is inexcusable. As a citizen of this state - I am asking our elected officials to step-up and end this shutdown and give our state citizens back our economy and livelihoods. Thank you.
04/13/2020 10:58 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Councilman Daniel Ruggles	<p>We need to reopen NC. There is more damage being done by keeping it closed than there would be by opening it. It's killing local businesses and communities. Figures dont lie, but liars figure.</p> <p>Thank you, Daniel E Ruggles District 1, Councilman City of Clinton</p>
04/13/2020 10:59 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Julie Klaus	Open up North Carolina!
04/13/2020 11:01 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Josie Rathbone	My husband and I are both self employed! My husband owns a mobile bounce house and event tent rental company and I'm a hairdresser! We are both suddenly without income and aren't able to get any type of unemployment. We have 2 small children to support as well! The projected numbers do not support the actual numbers! We need to get NC reopened as soon as possible! People can take precautions as they see fit while still letting these small businesses get back to operating!
04/13/2020 11:01 AM	Economic Support Working Group	ReOpen NC! Dara Weaver	Re-open NC! The closing of businesses has gotten way out of hand, it is my personal responsibility to mitigate my risk for contracting what is for most a mild illness, not the government's job. Far more people will suffer far more greatly from the economic ramifications of shutting down the economy then will be affected by the sickness. Hospitals are not even near to full capacity! Re-open NC!
04/13/2020 11:02 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Jeremy Yater	#ReopenNC we need to get NC back open, I live in Kinston and it has a lot of small businesses that are closed due to the C19 epademic.Nc does not have the numbers to keep it closed due to the C19.We need NC open
04/13/2020 11:05 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. James McEver	Please start re-opening small businesses, especially in rural counties
04/13/2020 11:06 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Myra Bumgardner	ReOpenNC. This shut down was supposed to be for hospitals to be equipped, which they are. Put our people back to work. Suicide, domestic violence and substance abuse on the rise. Our liberties have been stolen from us. This must stop. NOW
04/13/2020 11:06 AM	Economic Support Working Group	DIXIE MOORE	I am no longer in support of keeping our economy shut down in NC. I'm firmly against it going forward. _ The economic hardships are causing massive domestic abuse, depression, increased alcohol sales by 23% but more than anything, I no longer know my country. This is worse than anything history taught us about the USSR or Germany. We have Fish & Wildlife saying only household members are allowed on a boat. For the same reason a warrant is needed in a car, we are in OUR ABODE, our property and the government is just downright scary to tell me who can enter my abode. All for a <1% death rate of a disease. It needs to stop! NOW.

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04/13/2020 11:09 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Angie Byrd	Our state needs to have more essential services. Even if there are limits to how many people can be in a hair salon, a dentist office, a real estate showing, Restaurants need to be allowed to be open with limited seating and small stores for shopping. Schools and churches need to be allowed to be open with PPE guidelines. If we can go to Walmart, Costco. Why can't we go to school and church with people we know who have been social Distancing and safe from this virus for weeks on end. Students and church members need connection.
04/13/2020 11:10 AM	Economic Support Working Group	William Anderson	Please stop this lockdown immediately. The long term risk of continuing as is is far greater than the risk of Covid
04/13/2020 11:10 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Linda Hess	We are small business owners. NC needs to go back to work. We have followed the guidelines as you have asked. Please use common sense. We will as well. May 1 is the magic number.
04/13/2020 11:10 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr John Boyette	With the declining number of cases it is time to save our economy! Open our State May 1st!!! There may be a few more deaths but it's not worth ruining millions of people's financial lives!!
04/13/2020 11:11 AM	Economic Support Working Group	John Ellis	The numbers that we are being told that are supposed to justify this shut down do not seem to add once once you look more closely. If people are concerned for their safety then advise them to stay at home but otherwise open it back up.
04/13/2020 11:13 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Clifford Phillips	I echo every sentiment from the small business owners and unemployed workers in the state that restrictions must be lifted quickly so we can return to work. The governor's reckless one-size-fits-all approach to his mandated shutdowns will cost our neighbors billions in lost wages and revenue if we can't get back to work. While his concern for our fellow citizens is noted and commendable, there seems to be a monumental disconnect between computer models and boots-on-the-ground reality. Please make every effort to get our working men and women back to work to minimize the lasting effects of Governor Cooper's mandates.
04/13/2020 11:13 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Bill Henkel	While we need to continue to take safety precautions to protect ourselves and others, we need to stop these unconstitutional limits on civil liberty. It is time to restore the right to self determination. If people don't feel safe, they have the right to self quarantine and the government has already provided safe guards for them, such as mandatory sick leave and expanded unemployment benefits. If people feel safe they should have the right to move around freely. It is time to put faith back in the people. I am sure most will act responsibly.
04/13/2020 11:14 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Danny Mounce	It is time to reopen NC.
04/13/2020 11:14 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Deborah Blackwelder	At what point does the solution to the Covid-19 virus become worse than the virus itself? I am more worried about what this quarantine and business/work shutdown is doing to our country, our state, our towns and our way of life. At some point the solution of shutting this economy down does become more dangerous than this virus. It is time to plan now on how to re-open North Carolina by May 1. Let those who are at risk continue to take whatever precautions they find necessary but we must stop this fear and panic and return to work.
04/13/2020 11:15 AM	Economic Support	Brenda Brown	Ray Starling testified that 50% of NC small businesses may be lost by month's end. This is

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	Working Group		UNACCEPTABLE. The virus is NOT causing hospitals to be overloaded. In fact the opposite is happening. Cape Fear hospitals have furloughed over 650 workers. Many nurse are working part time, even in hospitals like Meck which has 25% of the states cases. There is NO reason to keep our state shut down. #ReOpenNCNOW
04/13/2020 11:16 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Angie Hutchins	There aren't ONLY two options: shut down more or reopen as before. We CAN reopen slowly and encourage new behaviors. Opening slowly with new social expectations is going to have to happen sooner or later anyway...kicking that can down the road another full month to June first or 3 months, 6 months or 18 months....there will always be a RISK. There is a snowball effect to the number of businesses tanking, suicides, depression, etc if we do not work TOWARDS a reasonable goal. We were told to flatten the curve. We did and most people have made amazing sacrifices and made the best of the past 4-5 weeks. But this can't go on indefinitely. We need a plan to reopen-CAREFULLY!
04/13/2020 11:17 AM	Economic Support Working Group		Open up NC again! Let the people decide what they do, and allow immunocompromised and high risk people to take caution at their own risk! Stop taking our rights away over this. Our communities deserve opportunities to make a paycheck. Any job that puts food on the table is an essential job!
04/13/2020 11:17 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Lorrie Jacaruso	Please open up Our state . The models are wrong this shutdown can no longer be justified. Essential bossiness will die . Shutting us in Is making us more unhealthy. I am a hospital essential with an empty hospital . People who need us are not getting to us . Open up gyms open up hair salons and everything else that makes people feel good . Please open up parks again I have 4 young grandchildren that do not understand why they can't play . People have the common sense to wipe down equipment and children . This Shutdown will kill us economically and physically. It will be worse than this overhype virus .
04/13/2020 11:18 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Charlotte Britt	We need to reopen NC!! SMALL BUSINESSES ARE DYING!!! People need to get back to work.
04/13/2020 11:19 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Lindy Wilson	I sincerely hope that the great state of North Carolina will consider reopening the economy at the end of the governor's "stay at home" order. The predictions and models for infection and death rates have been incredibly unreliable, and it does not appear that North Carolina will have any hospital bed or ICU bed shortages. We are reaching the point, economically, where the state's restrictions are becoming worse than the virus itself. We can continue to protect the vulnerable by having them practice social distancing, but the vast majority of North Carolina residents need to get back to work. We need to be able to feed our families and pay our bills! The point was to flatten the curve to give hospitals time to prepare, which we have done. Now it is time to work on a plan to reopen!
04/13/2020 11:19 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Angie Forbes	Time to reopen NC as soon as possible. Keeping businesses shut is detrimental to our state and the well being of many of our citizens. People's livelihoods are at stake. Perhaps our leaders should go without pay for one short month and see how it impacts your own families. Reopen our small businesses and beaches. People's mental health are at stake, as well.
04/13/2020 11:20 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Dolores Pina	Please re-open our beautiful state of NC! Keeping businesses closed will cause devastating effects economically to our state. We want to get back to work and normal life.

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04/13/2020 11:20 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Linda Coombs	I am a small business owner and we need to have a plan to open by May 1st. Roy Cooper needs to be reminded he is not dictator. Hospitals are not full and it is actually opposite. We are in a good place to prepare to open. We are told we can't buy seeds and other essential items this is an over reach of government.
04/13/2020 11:20 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Martha Stovall	It is NOT your place to pick winners and losers! Please reopen our businesses!! Bankruptcy and poverty will be worse than COVID19 to our citizens! Put out guidelines, open up all business, then let each business decide how to adhere to the guidelines. You may be surprised at how creative and smart business owners are! They know more how to safely respond to this virus than you do! Thanks!
04/13/2020 11:20 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Lisa Martin	We need to get this state back to work, using social distancing and continuing sanitation and self protection guidelines. Bankrupting your citizens will create more problems than the virus is presently.
04/13/2020 11:21 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Reopen NC John Byrd	<p>We have owned the largest wine tour company in NC for 17 yrs</p> <p>We have operated during many other virus types including H1N1, Aids, and others . We can't get SBA loans just need to start operating again. The ABC in other states have allowed on site business on limited basis and with you locking down all the wineries you have crippled a large sector of the wine economy. We have lost thousands of dollars already and if we can't get up and running soon then we may not be able to return back to business and go into bankruptcy and lose our home as well. There has to be a middle road on this issue so that we don't destroy all the small business owners like us.</p> <p>Our bank Wells Fargo wont even honor the SBA program which is a farce.</p> <p>Best regards</p>
04/13/2020 11:21 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Susan Moody	We MUST ReopenNC now. We must restore our Constitutional Rights and Freedoms.
04/13/2020 11:21 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Kali Havlick	We need to open our state back up. The results of this shutdown on people's lives are worse than the virus. We are not New York, we can handle this in other ways than complete shutdown. Thank you.
04/13/2020 11:22 AM	Economic Support Working Group		<p>The unemployment office has rejected my claim as I am considered "self employed". By doing so, they have also prevented me from being eligible for federal relief. I have received an email to call in, but the system has been down and not allowing incoming calls for over a week.</p> <p>If I were allowed to go to work, none of this would be a problem. My own state is starving me.</p>
04/13/2020 11:23 AM	Economic Support Working Group	MRS Deanna Utt	I would like to see a plan to reopen NC and SOON. I know that NC projections are significantly lower, you have had time to formulate an action plan and now it's time to open the economy and not send us into a "Great Depression".
04/13/2020 11:24 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Kathryn Roach	Please loosen these extreme measures against shopping or doing business in NC no later than April 30! People 's lives are being devastated out of proportion with the health scare. We are smart enough to deal with this virus without destroying our whole economy!!
04/13/2020 11:24 AM	Economic Support	Mrs Christa Berciunas	Small business owner that had to close on March 17th with only a couple of hours notice.

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	Working Group		Employee's filed for unemployment the same day - as of this morning they have yet to receive benefits and are suffering terribly! All of the small businesses in our community are hurting - some will never recover - a large majority of our population rely on these businesses to feed their families - several weeks have gone by and many have depleted what little savings they had - we are ready to go back to work!! Although government funding has been promised it has not been delivered and the days keep ticking by with hungry children to feed and bills to pay - we in Ocean Isle Beach - Brunswick County - North Carolina want to go back to work!
04/13/2020 11:24 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Eddy Jones.	It's time to open this state back up. ENOUGH ALREADY. THIS IS America not Russia. Please stop The governor from devastating out entire economy
			Eddy Jones Ocean isle Beach NC.
04/13/2020 11:26 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Julie Anderson	I am deeply concerned about the impact this shut down is having on the economy in N.C. I have not been able to work since March 13 because I teach preschool. At this time, we are unsure if the PPP loan will be approved. I am not eligible for unemployment because the preschool is part of a church. I live in Pitt County which has a population of 180,000. There have been 63 confirmed cases since this started. 1 death. 1! The other 62 people either have or are recovering. And the rest of us are not allowed to work, not allowed to gather for worship, are being told which way to walk down the aisle of the grocery store, not allowed to see our friends or loved ones. This is not the America that I know. I feel like the government has taken over our lives and it is time for N.C. reopen. Small businesses and families are being negatively impacted by the Governor's mandates.
04/13/2020 11:26 AM	Economic Support Working Group	nc economy michael heath	Good Morning! my name is michael. I'm worried about NC economy due to the fact Gov Roy cooper signed executive orders to Hart small businesses it's people livelihood. Roy cooper needs to be impeached.
04/13/2020 11:26 AM	Economic Support Working Group	MS. lorraine harkey	PLEASE OPEN OUR STATE BACK UP BEFORE PEOPLE LOSE THEIR LIVELIHOOD. WE CAN ONLY LAST SO LONG WITHOUT INCOME.
04/13/2020 11:26 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Cheryl Sultan	Please open our economy and lift the stay at home restrictions NOW!!! The number of cases is too small to warrant the shut down any more. More people are likely to die from suicides due to the economic ramifications of losing their jobs and businesses than from COVID-19. Perhaps keep the ban on visiting in nursing homes where there are large outbreaks but otherwise, the people of NC have the common sense to take precautions without government regulations.
04/13/2020 11:27 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Dr. Abir mandal	Hello I am an economics and econometrics professor, and based on my experience with statistical modeling, I strongly believe Dr. Cohen and Roy Cooper are misleading us with respect to the effectiveness of social distancing. The models all took into account perfect social distancing into their best case scenarios and we see that the actual data is substantially under that, even as we know that our real world social distancing

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			performance has not been anywhere close to perfect, given we are imperfect humans after all. Instead of acknowledging that perhaps the models are flawed, those two have doubled down on their insistence on relying on those inaccurate statistics to impose further lockdown measures. Not only is that an unethical abuse of power, but it is unconstitutional and likely illegal, since he didn't obtain state council's concurrence before he took his decisions. Public policy should never be under the purview of clinicians like Cohen and I urge you to communicate our anger and displeasure at his wanton destruction of our economy and livelihood. I strongly urge him to admit he was wrong and reverse his decision to impose a stay at home order immediately. Thank you for communicating my ire to him about this.
04/13/2020 11:27 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Douglas Long	Let us get back to normal already. Stop bullying and fearmongering.
04/13/2020 11:27 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Citizen Dawn Shields	Open the state up. There is no threat and the numbers do not add up.
04/13/2020 11:28 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Rebecca Stirewalt	We respectfully ask that you reopen the state for business. At this point the cure is becoming worse than the virus. Thank you.
04/13/2020 11:30 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Chris Cox	Not a question it's a directive. Get the economy back open. Let "the people" decide how when and where they should run their lives. This is America NOT China.
04/13/2020 11:30 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Joan Taylor	REOPEN NC now.
04/13/2020 11:32 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Cheryl Pigott	<p>We are residents of North Carolina that stand for The Constitution and demand our officials Reopen NC no later than April 29, 2020. We are losing our small businesses, which are the backbone of our economy. The shutdown is not warranted, nor sustainable for our area. The vulnerable can be isolated or protected in other ways, without sacrificing our entire state economy. It's important to note, several other states have not enacted stay at home orders. Gov. Abbott in Texas will reopen businesses soon and you can too! My husband and I both own small businesses that support other small businesses. This closure is hurting everyone and your closure "cure is worse than the virus".</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Cheryl Pigott NC Resident and tax payer</p>
04/13/2020 11:32 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Joel Smith	Let me urge you to return to life as normal with continued protection of those at risk of serious complications related to Covid-19. What we need is herd immunity and a restoration of economic life. Failure to do this will lead to long term destruction and greater loss of life.
04/13/2020 11:33 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Kristen Bray	<p>The following stores have remained opened in Wilmington, NC:</p> <p>Sams club & Wal mart, Costco</p> <p>Harris Teeter, Food Lion, Publix, Trader Joe's Aldi's, etc.</p> <p>Home Depot & Lowe's (they had a big sale Saturday).</p> <p>Just to name a few! There are many others. There are many people in these stores!</p> <p>Can someone please explain why I can't walk on the beach or take my family of 3 out for a</p>

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			<p>boat ride but I can risk my life in the above big box stores? (Sarcasm)</p> <p>On another note, I own a small business and am sympathetic to this community. Why are Convenience stores allowed to do business but small privately owned retail stores are not? I can go on and on giving examples but you get the point. I watched an interview this morning with the CEO of Walmart on the Today Show explaining their Coronavirus protocol (I'm sure you can watch the interview on YouTube). In all fairness, if a small mom and pop store can adhere to the same protocol, then why can't they open back up soon. Many statistics are coming out that as many as 25-40 % of small businesses will end up closing soon.</p> <p>And, my neighbor was rescheduled for a much needed medical scan until further notice. I also have elderly customers (age 80-90) calling me and begging my company to come to their house because they haven't spoken to a human in over 3 weeks. My father works in a nursing home and says 20% of the residents walk the hallways from the time they awake until bedtime but now they are confined to their rooms. I have a relative who's father was in a nursing home and recently transferred to our main hospital and cries because she can't visit him. We need to come up with a better plan!</p>
04/13/2020 11:34 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Tracey Smith	We need to end this lockdown. We are one of the LEAST affected states in the country, and HOSPITALS are laying off workers due to having no work. Have faith in the PEOPLE that they will do what is right for themselves, especially high risk. If TEXAS can reopen with guidelines and recommendations, so can we. If this draconian lockdown of control continues, there will not be an economy left to save. Its time for this nonsense to end!!
04/13/2020 11:34 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Sara Coleman	This imposed lockdown is no longer necessary as it has become obvious that North Carolina is weathering the storm. Businesses and schools should be allowed to re-open, with the understanding that new safety guidelines are to be put in place. We can not become a state that allows politics and policies to dictate our personal freedoms.
04/13/2020 11:35 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Economic impact Carrie Everhart	We need to get this state back up and running! People are losing businesses and livelihoods they have spent their entire lives building. Soon it will be too late for them to come back from the impact of this "shut down". The numbers of this virus have not come close to what was predicted, and I am talking about numbers predicted WITH the shutdown in place. There is only one thing that will curb this, and that is herd immunity. At the rate we are going that will be acquired terribly slowly. We can protect those most vulnerable without these Draconian measures. What is happening is blatantly against out constitutional rights. We must REOPEN NC!
04/13/2020 11:36 AM	Economic Support Working Group	ReopenNC Joseph Lindquist	The statistics on COVID-19 have been way below modeled range as to this date. There is no rational justification for the intense economic damage that is occurring. The economic damage will likely cost more lives than the disease itself.
04/13/2020 11:37 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Miss Kara Ingle	Please reopen NC. This country, state, and community no longer feels like a democracy.
04/13/2020 11:37 AM	Economic Support Working Group	T.Rick Smith	Nobody wants to flip a switch but the time is coming when indicated areas with appropriate guidelines can start the process of opening the country. We have states that are many times larger than Countries. We have learned the social distancing rules and hygiene regimen and can continue then even more rigidly as we start to open the country. We that are older and those that are more vulnerable can continue to isolate our selves. To destroy the lives and futures of our kids and grandkids is not an acceptable or

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			proportional price. We are all in this together but that doesn't mean that all of us with various levels of risk require the same response or level of protection.
04/13/2020 11:39 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Heather Sammons	Reopen NC and let the people get back to work!
04/13/2020 11:41 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Jennifer Wright	Please consider reopening our businesses, let each owner decide if it is in their best interest to continue. You are taking money out of our hands daily! Also please reconsider opening the schools with waivers for any medically fragile or health concerned. Let them choose distance learning if needed but we have "essentials" unable to find childcare. If we are allowing childcare those same kids could be being educated also putting out teachers back to work!
04/13/2020 11:42 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Donna Andrews Stone	Please open up our State. Look at the numbers ! We will loose everything we have . More people has died with the flu !! Look at the numbers PLEASE How can you dictate what we can do ? More people alive and well than sick ! #reopennncnow Please !!!!
04/13/2020 11:43 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Nancy Kimsey	Up until this point, I have been fully supportive of the COVID restrictions in NC. But now we have succeeded in flattening the curve, in fact there are hospitals half empty due to "non essential" surgeries being postponed. I believe NC should be divided into some economic zones in which gradual reopening of our businesses can take place, starting May 1. If not, the health repercussions may actually be worse than COVID: suicide, domestic violence, children who need safe places and healthy food, etc. I also believe that some surgeries should be scheduled. Thank you.
04/13/2020 11:44 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Kevin Watson	Folks need to go back to work. My wife had to shut down her hair salon due to the Governor's mandate. She sees one client at a time by appointment only and has to clean and sanitize between clients already anyway. I don't see how shutting her or others like her's businesses down will stop the spread of Covid 19 when they are more exposed going to open businesses for essentials. Please open businesses and commerce back up, folks are hurting and some businesses may not be able to recover already. Thanks
04/13/2020 11:44 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Reopen the state. Rebecca Spann	Begin the process of reopening immediately. The evidence does not justify continuing this absurd shut down.
04/13/2020 11:46 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Tisha Margraves	Open up our state, now!!!! We have to work!!
04/13/2020 11:48 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Brian Bullman	It has become obvious, at this point, that this reaction is unnecessary and is going to be the cause of far more suffering and death than the virus. The economic devastation that has already occurred is beyond measure and continuing this policy will only cause it to worsen. While not everyone agrees with this assessment, it is true nonetheless. Current, there are tens of thousands of NC residents that are on the precipice of taking matters into their own hands and openly challenging the governance of this state.
04/13/2020 11:48 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Misti Smith	We own a small business and we are not going to survive if you dont reopen our state. You MUST let us work!!! Our economy simply cannot withstand a further shutdown!!!

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04/13/2020 11:48 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Ann Sisk	I am a voting citizen of N.C. And I do not support the shutdown past the April 30th date. I Urge Governor Cooper to reopen our great working state of N.C. "Only thing we have to fear is FEAR itself." Franklin D. Roosevelt
04/13/2020 11:49 AM	Economic Support Working Group		Let small businesses open back up, let restaurants open back up, let everything go back to normal.
04/13/2020 11:50 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Charter boat owners Robert Wood	Open our state back up. The Governor is killing our businesses and our state out of a media driven fear for this virus What he is doing is a disgrace. The media and a few politicians are running our country over this virus and it's not fair. We the people must stand up!
04/13/2020 11:50 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mike Pittman	We need for the economy to be opened back up. It is getting to look like a hoax and if you are not careful that hoax will grow. Get NC moving again!
04/13/2020 11:51 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Diana Carroll	Please re open and let us get back to work!! Keep the social distancing rules in place require face masks to be worn in public and work places and stress the importance of sanitizing!
04/13/2020 11:51 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Emily Davis	<p>Flatten the curve by asking the vulnerable to voluntarily stay home. The vast majority of us will not require hospitalization if we catch the virus. We have enough beds for those that do. This is the fastest way to achieve herd immunity and protect the medically frail without plunging us into a Greater Depression. It is not reasonable to expect millions to suffer homelessness and hunger, especially children, to protect a minority of the population that we can protect well enough without these draconian measures.</p> <p>Also, do not restrict the purchase of gardening supplies and seeds the way many other states have done. Some of us feed our families this way, and this is our normal planting season. Many others are starting gardens due to realistic concerns over food shortages.</p> <p>Look at what Sweden has done. That is the best way to navigate this challenge without unfairly suspending constitutional rights. And the best way to ensure your reelection, I might add.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
04/13/2020 11:52 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Re-open NC Brandon Harrison	Open NC back up. We are no longer in a place where we need to be shut down.
04/13/2020 11:52 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Joanna Kobernat	<p>Please consider taking steps to reopen North Carolina and to return it to normal conditions by April 29.</p> <p>As a pastor's wife, I am very concerned for the for the emotional and physical well-being of our members and community. The shutdown is creating financial stress in our families and isolation and fear in our elderly which is directly affecting their physical well being. My husband had a graveside service last week for an elderly lady who passed suddenly. She had dementia and was very confused and frustrated and couldn't understand why her family could not come to see her.</p> <p>Our people are out of work and are concerned about how they are going to make their mortgages and other essential bills. The "cure" that is in place now is hurting far more than it is helping.</p>

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04/13/2020 11:53 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Cierra Ward, RF	Please reopen NC! The impact to small businesses is too much to bear. It's time to reopen and get things going again. The covid hasn't killed nearly as many people as we were originally led to believe it would. This lockdown response has officially gotten to the level of ridiculous. Reopen NC!!!
04/13/2020 11:54 AM	Economic Support Working Group		We the people were not created to be isolated and without work. We need each other to thrive and our jobs to survive. The COVID-19 is not the pandemic here, it's isolation, depression, financial hardships which lead to many other issues. We need to reopen and we need it now.
04/13/2020 11:56 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Daune Pitman	It is time to reopen our state. We are small business owners that teach dance/theatre in daycares (not high risk group) across the entire state. We & our staff have 0 income and can pay no bills. None of the stimulus has come through for our business or our staff. We have been in business for 28 years and will lose everything if we can't fully reopen in May.
04/13/2020 11:56 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Kimberely Luber	Please, please open our Country back up. States like North Carolina should not be shut down. Not all states are the same, having the same drastic outbreak. This is crippling our economy. It is just ridiculously that big box stores can remain open, however small businesses can't. We can all social distance and wear a mask to avoid spreading what we might have without knowing. If people can do it at Walmart , Target, Lowe's along with grocery stores then we can do it everywhere. Please I beg you open us back up.
04/13/2020 11:56 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Lisa Todd	What are the benchmarks NC has to hit in order to reopen??? We already "bent the curve," and didn't overwhelm the healthcare system. Why are we not opening ANY of the counties, cities, and areas that have not had one single case - just as a "test control" to gather data on the feasibility of doing so?
04/13/2020 11:56 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Re open the state Chris Wilson	We need to get things going very soon. The cure is rapidly becoming worse than the cure. People out of work, economy tanking. Also of great concern is kids sitting at home all day that already had a terrible home life before this. It certainly isn't getting better for them. I see it a lot in my community. There are certainly hot spots which require more caution, but the more rural areas don't require such strict restrictions. We can be smart about this and still protect the vulnerable. Let's not fill stadiums just yet, but outdoor youth sporting events for example, absolutely. People are smart, they will keep their distance (because there's room to do so) and be mindful of the situation at hand. The original models and even updated models were way off. It's time to adjust accordingly our approach to the pandemic. Thank you for your time.
04/13/2020 11:57 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Nancy Truett	Please work on Reopening NC.
04/13/2020 11:57 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Mary-Belle Simmons	<p>I've had no income since March 25, the unemployment website is overloaded, and while I was able to finally complete the application, there's been no progress made. Meanwhile I, a single mother with six children, am left unable to pay my rent, and wondering how long before I will be able to buy groceries again.</p> <p>I am a resident of North Carolina that stand for The Constitution and demand our officials Reopen NC no later than April 29, 2020. We are losing our small businesses, which are the backbone of our economy. The shutdown is not warranted, nor sustainable for our area. The vulnerable can be isolated or protected in other ways, without sacrificing our entire state economy. It's important to note, several other states have not enacted stay at home</p>

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			orders.
			While businesses and employees around the state are shut down and hemorrhaging money by the day because they can't do business or work, are you willing to give up your salary (aka NC citizens' tax money) and try to live on nothing? Are you willing to give up everything you've worked for like the thousands of small businesses in NC? I honestly don't think you are but you expect everyone else to?
			Signed, Mary-Belle Simmons Onslow County, NC resident Registered voter Taxpayer Small business owner
04/13/2020 11:58 AM	Economic Support Working Group		We need to reopen NC before the economy collapses. There are more deaths every year from the flu, from other diseases, and from abortion. Less than 1% of the population has contracted this virus and less than 1% of those have died from the virus. Of course every death is tragic, but they by no means measure up to deaths caused by anything else. Those who are at risk should stay home. Allow everyone else to go back to normal. These extreme measures are hurting our state and out country. We need to reopen NC immediately.
04/13/2020 11:59 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Kay Tyndall	It is time to begin the process of reopening NC.
04/13/2020 11:59 AM	Economic Support Working Group	William West	Open the state back up, we have rights as American citizens!
04/13/2020 11:59 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Angie Arrants	Please consider realistic guidelines for reopening small business. I am an owner operator of a one chair salon. The safety and well being of my clients is most important. Personal responsibility. Self quarantine for the sick and vulnerable is a reasonable approach. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.
04/13/2020 12:00 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Bryan Burch	<p>To the NC General Assembly and members of the select committee on COVID-19, we need to end the unnecessary stay-at-home order for North Carolina, reopen businesses, restaurants, and services, and get our economy moving again. Our families, friends, and neighbors are being impacted by virus with an incredibly low infection rate and an extremely low death rate. While this may be scary, we should not scrap our Constitution and sanity based on fear. We didn't shelter at home after the Japanese attacked us in 1941 or when terrorists attacked us in 2001. This is no different. We cannot let fear kill our economy and we cannot let the cure be worse than the virus.</p> <p>There are so many people in my family, circle of friends, and community who are being impacted financially by this virus, but I know no one in person who has been impacted by this virus. These people who have been impacted have been furloughed from work and are not drawing a paycheck as the sole breadwinner for their family, they are working moms who help provide for their family who cannot do so, and one is a small business owner who has had to shutter his business because he had no money coming in. I'm sure these folks I know are just a tiny sampling of what people all across our state are experiencing.</p>

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			If we wait until May 1st or later to open our economy back up I'm worried we're not going to have an economy to open back up. Please do not base your decisions on the numbers in Italy, Spain, New York, or Washington state. Please look at the number of our state where we have some of the lowest numbers of infection and death in the country. Think of the rural counties that have single digit infection rates, if that. We need to allow our county and city level governments to make the decision on how to handle their individual communities. Every county is different and can best regulate themselves. Most importantly, we need to get our state's economy back to where it was just a couple short months ago.
04/13/2020 12:00 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Yolanda Hill	As a small business owner with employees it is imperative that we get back to work. It's time to reopen NC. States with no stay at home orders have less Covid 19 deaths than ones who do; and they didn't out millions of people out of work.
04/13/2020 12:01 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Gayle Miele	Sectors of our economy must open up with proper precautions. In addition to the crushing blow this has been to many small businesses, health care workers are being laid off or having their pay/hours reduced due to the restrictions that have been put in place. If we are not careful, there will be nothing left to salvage.
04/13/2020 12:02 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Suzanne Carpino	I would like to start the process of getting things opened again. I believe that it is critical for our economy we get businesses open again and people back to work or we will never recover.
04/13/2020 12:02 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Rose Carter	It is time to get back to work. We have flattened the curve as was the original purpose of this shut down/social distancing. People can choose for themselves what risk they are willing to take or not take. This is freedom in America.
04/13/2020 12:03 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Reopen NC Keith Majeroni	The economic toll at this point is far greater than the toll of this virus. NC deaths are quite low, and as a citizen of Wake county, NC, I insist that the state government remove the unconstitutional restrictions placed on our state. These restrictions should be removed effective 5/1. Thank you.
04/13/2020 12:03 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Liz Myers-Chamberlin	I support providing paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all impacted workers, including "gig workers", as well as support for vulnerable small businesses.
04/13/2020 12:04 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Support families Kenda Mullert	Please reopen NC. Give us structures and guidelines to help ensure safety for all. As a small business owner, we want healthy customers so it's also in our interest to maintain safe guide line to ensure health. We NEED customers to take care of our own health too!
04/13/2020 12:04 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Dylan Cargal	Yes it's very important that we need to reopen NC ASAP. Our small businesses out depending on it ASAP
04/13/2020 12:05 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Pam Quinn	We own a small medical practice in Greenville, NC. We are 3 miles from ECU so we had an immediate reduction in patients when the students did not return to campus. We have 12 employees and we provide 80% of the premiums for our full time employees. Our patient count is down by 40-50% so our revenue is quickly decreasing while our expenses still remain the same. Health Ins, Rent, Malpractice insurance, building insurance, electronic medical record fees, utilities, landscape, custodial, phone etc. We are also paying our employees full time even though their hours have been cut and we are paying our

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			employees who have been out due to COVID issues.
04/13/2020 12:06 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr David Ruggles	I'm a small business owner in Duplin County. I would strongly urge you do everything you can to open the state back up. Social distancing and public use of masks and other PPE can be recommendations, but forcing businesses, many of them small businesses, to remain closed is going to cause an economic disaster that will be far worse then what the virus itself caused.
04/13/2020 12:07 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Karen Benton	It's time to prioritize the economic well being of our state and the best way to do this is by allowing businesses to reopen May 1st. The impact of continuing closures will be significantly worse on our state than any virus might be.
04/13/2020 12:07 PM	Economic Support Working Group	LeAnn Vipperman	Our state cannot withstand the downfall economically. Keeping things closed based on models and projections that are complete overkill is unprecedented and is not doing anything but causing more harm than the virus is and will. Hospitals are furloughing employees due to no work. This is unacceptable. The flu season is more deadly than this and numbers for this aren't even accurate due to the relaxed qualifications to diagnose without testing. It is time to end this.
04/13/2020 12:07 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Rhonda Hayes	All businesses should be allowed to reopen on April 30th provided they agree to taking extra measures to limit the spread of illnesses. Those measures may look different depending on the type of business. People must take some responsibility for their own well-being by continuing to avoid contact with others if they are older or have an underlying health condition. Destroying lives through continued forced economic restrictions is unconscionable and should not be an acceptable solution.
04/13/2020 12:08 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Martha Shoemaker	I think the gov should lift this stay at home order. Even with gov monies coming, most people can't afford to be out of work for extended periods. Our small and even large businesses cannot afford this either. The gov cannot continue to cause the economy this hardship. People should be about to decide whether to stay away from others or not.
04/13/2020 12:09 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Business Owner Jen Tozier	Respectively ask the committee begins re-opening NC on May 1st. We own a construction business which is considered essential however all our incoming new home starts were put on indefinite hold. Most of our clients are doctors whose practices have been impacted.
04/13/2020 12:09 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Tracy Meyerson	Please open NC. We are hurting so many people with this shut down. Then cost is much greater than any lives we are saving. Ask the at risk people to self quarantine. The rest of us need to work.
04/13/2020 12:10 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Robert Scarborough	The state Stay at Home order should expire on April 29 with counties/municipalities continuing with orders as medically and economically necessary. A statewide continuation of the order is not needed with the rates of infection declining. Also, healthy people need to get back into the community, kids should go back to school to allow a herd immunity to the virus to begin. This approach to immunity will aid in keeping a recurrence of the virus in the fall. Of course, folks who are concerned for their health or are not feeling well should stay at home.
04/13/2020 12:11 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Jordan Zavala	Reopen the state. This is getting ridiculous. Our economy is suffering and our rights are being infringed upon. I fear an uprising of the people if this isn't taken care of soon. Families are on unemployment and need to be able to feed their family. Stop this!!
04/13/2020 12:12 PM	Economic Support	Ms Linda Bumgardner	I know that Coronavirus is real and I appreciate all efforts that have worked to reduce the

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	Working Group		<p>spread of it.</p> <p>Thanks to the Stay at Home mandates, lives have been saved. The flattening of the curve and the lower rate of new cases is proof that the sacrifice has been worth it.</p> <p>Now, I urge you to NOT extend the Stay At Home order but rather begin issuing guidelines to keep the most vulnerable safe while we begin the reopening of NC.</p> <p>I am a small business owner and employ 65 people to work in our restaurant. We are now a Take-Out Only restaurant and funds are running low. My staff cannot pay their bills. Other restaurants in my community may not be able to reopen at all. Staying in this "closed" state when the risk is so low will bring more harm than good.</p> <p>The time is now for the general population to get back to life. Businesses need to be OPEN. The risks are low enough that more harm will now come by staying closed rather than strategically reopening.</p>
04/13/2020 12:13 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Lori Zeto	<p>For the sake of our state, PLEASE reopen North Carolina. I want nothing more than the health and safety of our citizens, but at what cost?? We should have the right to make our own decisions. A life without freedom is no life at all.</p> <p>Please call all Legislature back to Raleigh, rescind all executive orders, gain input from all members of Council of State, open NC back up immediately!</p>
04/13/2020 12:13 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Please reopen NC Katherine Lis	Please reopen the state. We are all in need of our businesses to reopen so we can survive. Thank you.
04/13/2020 12:13 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Owner Michele Core	<p>This lockdown is against our rights. People should be told of dangers and make their own decision on how to react to it. This is ruining our economy and people's livelihood.</p> <p>Precautions are fine but the rest is ridiculous.</p>
04/13/2020 12:13 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Open up NC now! Matt Wirt	Open up NC now. The federal stimulus and business aid money is a failure. Please don't make our state the next failure by failing to open it back up NOW. Thanks
04/13/2020 12:15 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Horace Beasley	<p>I am writing to you regarding Governor Cooper's "Stay at Home" Executive Order, which was issued on March 27th. I was very disturbed by what should have been "Guidelines" for the Citizens of North Carolina, were instead turned into the taking away of individual liberty and the right to operate a business, under threat of a Class 2 Misdemeanor.</p> <p>I am a retired Police Officer who gave over three (3) decades of service. As such, I am very familiar with the rights guaranteed to us under the US Constitution and the Bill of Rights. To my knowledge, the US Constitution has not been suspended by the President. As such, No Governor should, on his own accord; have the right to arbitrarily order any citizen confined to their home when they are not ill and have committed no crime.</p> <p>I would not normally seek any advice or assistance from the ACLU. However, I was quite surprised at the response I received from them; part of which is as follows:</p> <p>"State and local officials should make efforts to ensure that any travel restrictions or prohibitions are no more restrictive than necessary. Additionally, any restriction on people's movement in the name of public health must be scientifically justified. A restriction that is overly broad, has no time limit, or otherwise unnecessarily restricts freedom of movement has greater potential to violate the Constitution."</p> <p>The State of North Carolina currently has a population of over 10.4 million people. As of</p>

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			<p>today, there are only 4816 confirmed cases. Currituck County (where I reside) has over 24,000 residents and only 3 confirmed cases. Some counties have None. Therefore, a blanket "Stay at Home Order" is Not Scientifically justified and I believe at this point it Does Violate the US Constitution.</p> <p>I hope you will take action to put an end to this oppressive action that has been taken by the Governor, and release me and millions of other North Carolina Citizens from this needless deprivation of Liberty.</p> <p>Remember what Benjamin Franklin once said: "Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety."</p> <p>I thank you for your time in reading my concerns and wish you, and your staff well for the days ahead.</p> <p>Respectfully,</p> <p>JB</p> <p>Horace Jefferson Beasley, III</p>
04/13/2020 12:16 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Dr. James Lewis	I know for a fact that hospitals are not overfilled with patients, as a result of corona virus. Officials have closed down this state to the detriment of the majority of the middle class. My students are no longer able to enroll in class, because they cannot work. In fact, this shutdown is unconstitutional. Please re-open the state of North Carolina for business.
04/13/2020 12:17 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Captain Jonathan Crews	Please reopen the state. There is an increasing amount of information pointing to the fact that this virus has been here for months, and that it is actually on the same rate if transmission and fatality as the seasonal flu. We need our state to start making money again. We can not afford to keep people out of work. Do the right thing, let us work.
04/13/2020 12:20 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Teresa Lane	We need to open our economy. Small business and self employed can't take much more of this and survive. You are holding an entire economy prisoner for a fraction of a fraction of the population. People can choose to stay home if they fear getting sick. They can choose to wear masks and gloves. But Gov Cooper has taken away the CHOICES AND RIGHTS of the state and the people that elected him. In order to build immunity you have to be exposed. Vaccines are not the answer. I am not Anti-Vaccine but making what is happening to our economy is wrong. #REOPENNC NOW so we can get back to life. I am against being held prisoner in my home due to someone else's fears. Small business and the self employed built this state and this country yet this economic shut down is choking those very people. We have to get back to daily life.
04/13/2020 12:21 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Open NC for business ASAP Jennifer Richardson	Please reopen our state for business. Our hospitals are not at capacity. We had more deaths from H1N1 years ago and no one shut down the economy. People's livelihood is at stake. Soon, people will not be able to feed their families.
04/13/2020 12:22 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Hannah Miele	While precautionary measures are understandable, the current practices of NC have gone beyond precautionary and into extremes. Businesses are losing money at best and closing forever at worst. Many people, some whom I know personally, have taken pay cuts, reduced their hours, or lost their jobs. Those not working are discouraged by seeing how

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			the unemployed will receive stimulus. Who has set up these seemingly arbitrary distinctions between "essential" and "non-essential" work and commerce? When has the government been given that authority? They say we are in a crisis, but to date in NC (4/13/2020), the number of deaths due to influenza is nearly twice the amount of those due to COVID-19. Fewer than 100 people have died due to COVID-19 in this state. We are not facing a crisis due to the virus, but we are facing an economic crisis because of the extreme actions of the state. It is time to remove the restrictions and let NC's economy recover before the government's overreaction kills it completely.
04/13/2020 12:22 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Jan Stevens	<p>Thank you in advance for allowing constituents in North Carolina to provide input to you. As a small business owner impacted greatly by Governor Cooper's shutdown, I just have to ask at what point will common sense prevail? When will all of you see that the impact on our economy, the quality of our lives, ability to provide for our families, mental health, etc. is far more devastating than COVID-19? This shutdown affects every single citizen in some way; the virus does not. North Carolina has an estimated 0.04% of its population affected by this virus and a far lower percentage that have succumbed to it. On the other hand, the percentage of lives affected by lost wages, depression, suicidal thoughts, inability to provide for their families, etc is too high to count. Who pays the price for Governor Cooper's actions? North Carolina citizens do! He doesn't suffer at all - he can get whatever he needs from stores; he can still get his hair cut; he is still getting paid; he still has food on his table; etc. Our rights have been stripped to assemble for worship; some stores are determining what is and isn't essential for us to buy; business owners such as myself have had to shut our doors and sit wondering how long we will be able to meet payroll. Every projection Governor Cooper has made regarding the number of cases, the number of beds needed, etc. has been wrong, extremely wrong. What is the plan to reopen North Carolina? Businesses just cannot go back to normal like it's a typical Monday morning - some businesses may never come back; all, at best, will take a long time to recover. We don't have months of overhead in our bank accounts; we do, however, have the knowledge and common sense to be able to open our businesses safely. We have applied for stimulus money in a program that is overburdened and run by inefficient workers who are deemed essential, not even to have received any type of update. Governor Cooper continues to talk about flattening the curve - his actions have certainly flattened the economy and drained our bank accounts. The devastating effects of his overreach of power are far greater than COVID will ever be - as our elected officials, you owe it to us, your constituents, to do better. You may forget this when its over, but we will remember long after, especially on Election Day. How much longer are you going to allow FEAR to dictate? Every single job that puts food on a table and keeps a roof over people is ESSENTIAL. Open up North Carolina - let us work!</p>
04/13/2020 12:22 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Jackie Moye	<p>We own a small value added business that employees around 75 individuals. We need to open Our economy in order to survive during this difficult time. We have had to dump milk, not because of the lack of supply chain, but due to limitations put on dairy products. All our agricultural tours and ice cream catering events have been cancelled. Many of our small business wholesale customers have had to close due to the no dine in option not being profitable, which as well effects our profit margin. We do care about safety of our employees and customers and we will continue to operate in the most efficient and sanitary measures possible. However, we also care about our survival as a small business and the ability to continue to provide jobs for those same employees and to produce a</p>

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04/13/2020 12:23 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ashley Lay	<p>quality product for our customers. . With our current situation of no dine-in, and the limitations place on our business to operate efficiently... it is very hard to continue to stay in business. We need your help in strategically opening NC again! Thank you!</p> <p>I own a small business in NC. My operating costs are \$37,000 per month. I have now eaten through over half of my reserves and the rest will be gone by May1. If we don't go back to work, you will lose \$30k to the state in taxes a year, just from me, not counting all the others because we will be shutting our doors permanently. PERMANENTLY. How many more of me are out there? How will our state come back from this? Our HOSPITALS are EMPTY. The numbers are WRONG. You are illegally strangling your people. We, the people, will not stand for this any longer.</p>
04/13/2020 12:23 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Margaret Dunlow	<p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>I am very much concerned about the status of the economic destruction that this virus has and will continue to cause if this state remains on lockdown. Our economy depends on the hard work of people here in NC. We can not continually strive when this governor continues to place restrictions on this state. It is time to lift restrictions and let us continue to prosper. Farming is a big economic boost to our area and pretty soon that will be destroyed. Learn to speak up for the people and not hide behind an administration that is failing the people of NC!! We must get back to work.</p>
04/13/2020 12:26 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Diane Ohsberg	<p>Like many North Carolinians we are alarmed that the medical experts surrounding the Covid 19 pandemic are feeling their way along in the dark. These medical experts are guessing at what the pandemic will cause if quarantine doesn't continue to the standards they recommend.</p> <p>We need a team willing to admit they overshot the numbers (as is becoming more and more apparent daily) and willing to look at other experts, perhaps on herd immunity and the impacts of economic recovery, before the citizens begin to trust again.</p> <p>We have lost our trust in nearly ALL of our NC legislators to put the whole picture together. We expect our own self determination in this land and we have the common sense to keep ourselves and our families safe.</p> <p>You are doing yourselves no favor by hamstringing freedom. We grow increasingly restless. ReopenNC!</p> <p>Diane Ohsberg Monroe,NC</p>
04/13/2020 12:27 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Mella Pool	<p>NC needs to be opened. It has been long enough. Have talked to some very upset folks that can't pay bills and are also very depressed.</p>
04/13/2020 12:28 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Tamie Bower	<p>As a resident of NC, I am very concerned about the continued Stay-At-Home orders placed by our Governor. Statistics are proving that COVID 19 is not the medical crisis the politicians tried to make it out to be. However, the economic fallout from the Stay-At-Home order is very real and potentially devastating for our beautiful state. In stark contrast to the coronavirus, the statistics for the economic devastation to our state are high and very real, though Governor Cooper and local elected officials are choosing not to look at this part of</p>

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			the equation. Please, please remove ALL Stay-at-Home orders for NC. #Reopen NC
04/13/2020 12:28 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Lisa Reckard	The devastation to unemployed families and small businesses is much more concerning to me than this illness. Reopen NC immediately!
04/13/2020 12:29 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Beverly Cotter	We should be thinking about reopening NC soon as the economy of our great state will be destroyed if we wait much longer. I have not been able to buy toilet paper since this whole shutdown started, and have had great difficulty getting the incontinence supplies I need for my disabled husband. Our local Asian restaurants are all shut down--is this going to put them totally out of business? Because I am my husband's caregiver, I don't cook much at home. Getting food out is becoming more difficult, and getting anything healthy is impossible! I am thankful we are basically retired so we have not had to worry about losing our jobs, but many other people have that worry. I understand that suicides are up 300%. I am in my 60s, and would rather risk getting the virus myself than to see our economy be ruined. Please act on reopening NC soon, preferably in May.
04/13/2020 12:29 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Please reopen N.C Jessica Rodrigurz	Reopen N.C!
04/13/2020 12:30 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Reopen Stacy Quittschreiber	Please re open NC. New Hanover County has placed more stringent measures regarding this pandemic leaving a lot of folks frustrated and angry. So many businesses will NOT recover from the restrictions being enforced. The numbers do not justify our rights as citizens that are being taken away. Our contracting business, though it may seem essential has come to a vault. People will not/can not use our services in the current economic condition. The mental state of those in our community is on the decline as I have witnessed loud frustration to many confrontations because the media has people scared to do normal activities. Going to the parks and beaches are now not permitted as we are getting underway to the tourist season wear some coastal businesses income for the year reside. Please allow us to get back to a normal schedule while protecting those most vulnerable!
04/13/2020 12:31 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Business Stephen Morris	Safety first. Let's have business install sinks outside doors of buildings a d everyone wash hands and wear mask while inside and outside if needed. It's cheaper than bankruptcy. We gotta get back to work. Another month and people in some small business will never reopen.
04/13/2020 12:32 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Emanuela Prister	I support allowing businesses to reopen their operations as soon as possible. Compared with the actual numbers of Covid illnesses and covid reported deaths, NC citizens and business owners are at a bigger risk if losing their livelihood than to actually get sick.
04/13/2020 12:34 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Get us back to work Perry Matthews II	We need our economy to go back to work immediately! The cure is worse than the virus. Businesses are closing, people are hurting!
04/13/2020 12:35 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Sybilla Stinson	To whom it may concern, Nc needs to go back to business. The numbers don't show that these extreme measures are necessary. Im self employed and should be able to choose myself if i want to go to my job or not. My clients should freely choose wether to go to a business of their choice or not.
04/13/2020 12:36 PM	Economic Support Working Group	ReopenNC Terry Sumner	I urge NC government to reopen business immediately! Hospitals are not under stress and there's no need to cripple our local economy any further.
04/13/2020 12:36 PM	Economic Support	Rachel Van Eerden	Please,please begin to open our dear NC did that more lives/livelihoods are not hurt or

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	Working Group		destroyed by economic devastation. 60,000 lives were lost to H1N1 and this country want shut down. Loss of life due to Covid19 is sadly looking to be around the same number. Why are we shutting down our economy now vs. then? Thank you for all you're doing. We look forward to NC returning to productive days while carrying for our most vulnerable.
04/13/2020 12:37 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Brian Shackelford	You need to re-open the state. This shut down is ridiculous based on the numbers compared to the flu, H1N1 and other viruses. Open the state.
04/13/2020 12:37 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Sheryl Pressley	Reopen NC ~ I do believe we all care about the wellbeing of all our citizens ~ we need to get the healthy out there back to work ~ yes take precautions as we all should and I know the majority of us do ~ but America needs to open back up ~ thank you for the opportunity to have a voice
04/13/2020 12:37 PM	Economic Support Working Group		The continued shutdown of our state and the Unconstitutional orders in place will be far more devastating than this virus. The data does not support the actions taken by our state government. As an American I have inalienable rights recognized by the Constitution granted by my Creator and these orders and arrests are in direct violation. We need to REOPEN NC now.
04/13/2020 12:39 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Stacy Jones	Stop playing games with our economics and open businesses back up! Social distancing and disinfecting can still take place. You have essentially burned down the whole house due to one spider. We had more deaths with h1n1 and no one shut the country down then.
04/13/2020 12:39 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Jennifer Stephenson	Please consider opening the economy back up. I own 3 small businesses: one is a speech therapy private practice, retail clothing store, and a rental company. All three are producing about 10-20% of what normal revenue would be for April. We cannot continue to withstand our economy being shut down even with the PPP. I need to get my employees back to work and see if we can turn this economy back around.
04/13/2020 12:40 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Quick and safe reopening Dominick Marescalco	The risk seems very low to start allowing businesses to reopen and lower restrictions on a county by county basis.
04/13/2020 12:40 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Michael Valladares	Governor Cooper is circulating an analysis by local "experts" that purportedly projects if we don't continue a quarantine past April, they see a likelihood that we will not have enough hospital beds to treat the sick. You have to read the very back of the report to see this forecast of not enough beds is based on a projection of 750,000 infections in NC by June 1. That would be a 7.5% infection rate in NC., And if Cooper's quarantine remains in place, then we can anticipate 250,000 infections, or over 2% infection rate, according to his report. From the report back page: "To put the findings in context, the models' composite estimates indicate that approximately 750,000 people in North Carolina may be infected with the virus by the end of our forecast period, June 1, 2020. This is if the social distancing policies are fully lifted at the end of April and are not replaced by other policies with equal assumed effectiveness to reduce transmission. On the other hand, if the same policies (or some other policies with similar effect) remain in

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			<p>place, the composite estimates indicate that an estimated 250,000 North Carolinians may be infected by June 1."</p> <p>https://files.nc.gov/ncdhhs/documents/files/covid-19/NC-Covid-Brief-1-4-6-20.pdf</p> <p>Right now, the worst country in the world for infections per capita is Spain, with an infection rate of 3600 per million, or .36%. https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/</p> <p>Right now NC has 4,400 infections out of 10.38M, or approximately .042% infection rate. No country or region to my knowledge has documented a population infection rate of over 1% of total population. In fact, according to Wordometers, the worst countries are no higher than .4% Yet Cooper is apparently telling North Carolinians that continuing his lockdown policies will result in an astronomical increase of infection, unseen anywhere else in the world, and that if we don't continue the economic self-embargo, we'll have over five times the number of infections that NY has now. And this will all happen by the end of May.</p> <p>I feel very day more and more like a character in Alice in Wonderland. Cooper is disseminating fantastical "modeling," that if it weren't being promulgated by the governor of the 9th largest state would be laughable.</p>
04/13/2020 12:40 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ashley Frank	<p>This pandemic has allowed me to realize how important and precious our liberties are. With the entire state of North Carolina shut down for the for seeable future, The economy will be decimated.How will we feed our families, stay in our houses and pay our bills. We need North Carolina open for business again.</p>
04/13/2020 12:41 PM	Economic Support Working Group		<p>REOPEN NC NOW!! Our small businesses will die if this UNCONSTITUTIONAL stay-at-home order isn't lifted before or by April 29th!! Self-employed people can't get approved for unemployment, those that have applied and gotten approved are STILL waiting 3 weeks later for funds!! REOPEN NC NOW</p>
04/13/2020 12:42 PM	Economic Support Working Group		<p>Safely reopen businesses</p>
04/13/2020 12:43 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Teresa Davis	<p>Please forgive student loans or at least make the interest rate zero percent. Many graduates will not be able to find jobs.</p>
04/13/2020 12:44 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Sarah Spannake	<p>There will never be a "perfect time" to lift these restrictions. This virus will still be here whether you reopen in June, July, or the fall. But in the meantime, small businesses will fall apart and the unemployment rate will continue to rise. How long can we really sustain these restrictions? Vulnerable people should continue to self-quarantine and protect themselves, but why not start letting some businesses reopen with precautions for the rest of us? The vast majority of the healthy and not-at-risk populations do not require hospitalization or even medical care with this virus. I am not afraid of this virus, but of the much more likely scenario of financial ruin for my family and others like us.</p>
04/13/2020 12:45 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Brent Townsend	<p>I am concerned about the economic impact on our state that the current "stay at home" rules are causing. Our state has not been affected as much as other parts of the country. Perhaps we can issue a stay at home order for those who are most at risk of dying from the virus, the elderly, people with health issues etc. This would protect those at risk but allow our state to not further injure millions of workers needing to provide for their families.</p>
04/13/2020 12:45 PM	Economic Support	Mr Jason Spangler	<p>I think it is vital the health of the people of North Carolina to relax the stay at home order</p>

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	Working Group		and allow business to open with reasonable precautions. Small business owners are smart enough to follow rules and make sure their employees and customers practice social distancing and sanitary recommendations.
04/13/2020 12:48 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Melissa Beck	Yes, re-open NC to normal operating conditions. Let residents make their own educated decisions about going out and/or staying in. Those who are at risk know how to protect themselves, they do it every cold and flu season.
04/13/2020 12:48 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Tani Spencer	I own a hair salon in Greenville NC. I have 9 girls who rent booths from me. I have 10 private rooms so no one is gathered together in a group. None of us have received any financial help so far. We are not eligible for state unemployment because we are self employed. The loans do not help us because I do not pay payroll. I am a single mom with 2 boys and a dog. I literally have no income and I don't want your handout. I want to go back to work for myself. There is no good reason that we can't open back up May 1st with some common sense guidelines. I am asking you to represent me (which is your job) and do whatever we need to do to get this state back open May 1st. There is absolutely no reason why the young and healthy can't go back to work. If you need to then ask the over 65 to remain at home for another month but keeping everyone at home for longer than a month is completely insane and irrational. Thank you, Tani Spencer
04/13/2020 12:50 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr John Harmuth	Open up the businesses...quarantine the sick.....stop killing businesses.
04/13/2020 12:50 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Nathan Sells	We need to put an end to the shut down of North Carolina. Governor Cooper has overstepped his authority based on misleading facts and data. It order to save our economy and thousands of lives impacted by this unconstitutional shut down, we the citizens of NC demand our businesses allowed to reopen without the fear of legal action being taken. This virus has proven by the numbers to not be valid enough to lock down healthy individuals and keep them from working to provide for their families. We are free citizens and are allowed to decide what is best for our individual lives. Reopen North Carolina today! #reopennc
04/13/2020 12:51 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Jackie Gable	please re-open our state. Encourage social distancing, staying home if you are sick, and other common sense measures for people who are in a vulnerable medical state. We need our small businesses to get back to work so that our economy can stabilize and people don't lose everything they have worked their whole life for.
04/13/2020 12:51 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Jamie Patrick	To Whom It Concerns, Thank you for hearing the residents of NC speak. My request is that you reopen our state of NC as soon as possible, meaning no later than May 1, 2020. Our family moved to this state in 2019 and bought a home based on the fact that there was ample work and funding for years ahead. Our family found out the end of March that business contracts had been cancelled due to the shutdown in our state due to CoVid 19 concerns. Our family now has zero income and is expected to navigate the overwhelmed NC unemployment office online. We have been following guidelines that have been put in place. We are not seeing how this pandemic warrants the kind of response that has been given down to the people of NC. The numbers of those infected, recovered and died due to the coronavirus do not seem to justify a shutdown of our state. There are frontline healthcare workers in our state of NC having their hours reduced significantly and that is very concerning to us as well.

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			Please hear our concerns. There are people who are sick and they need attention; however, not to the detriment of our whole state. We need to get our businesses up and running, health care facilities back in operation, children back to having school, sports and play dates before it is too late. Do we care about our elderly and immune compromised? yes and we are looking after them, getting food for them so they don't have to go out at this time. Please do the right thing and let us have our freedom to do business, worship in our places of worship and resolve to get health care operations up and running. We need to do this now, do not delay. Thank you.
04/13/2020 12:54 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Christy Kovach	Reopen NC NOW before the death toll from closing businesses/schools flies past that of a virus. This is ridiculous.
04/13/2020 12:54 PM	Economic Support Working Group	mr frederick benson	as we are all aware the current Covid 19 response by local authorities is due largely to fear of not knowing the impact of this virus, if it is a virus. However it has been shown that the impact to human life is far less than even traffic deaths due to driving a vehicle. There is absolutely no reason to shut down an entire economy due to fear. Of course there will be those impacted by any virus or bacterial infection. This is true of even the common cold. It is time to re-open our economy. Dont make the mistake of making the cure worse than the disease. Thank you!!
04/13/2020 12:56 PM	Economic Support Working Group	President Hap Merritt	We need to work we can't go on like this, small business owner are not getting paid . You guys are getting paid so you do not understand what it is like. We have invested everything in our business and the government is destroying it. We need to reopen NC NOW!.
04/13/2020 12:57 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Leanne Mccann	The statistics regarding the gravity of covid 19 have been grossly overstated. North Carolina is doing much better than reported. Mandates should be lifted immediately, to Stimulate the economy and allow people to get back to work. The whole purpose of shutting down was to ease the health care system. This is no longer necessary.
04/13/2020 12:57 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Angelique Martin	I would like to state my opinion that this whole coronavirus has been blown out of proportion for our state. We are nothing like New York City and businesses need to re-open immediately so that business owners can feed their families. Please re-open North Carolina effective immediately.
04/13/2020 12:59 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Kylie Crowley	Reopen N.C. I no longer have income and I have 3 kids to feed. It is every persons right to decide if they want to take the risk and leave quarantine. It's my decision and as a parent- my kids need fed. The numbers have been inflated. N.C. has minimal infection rates. It's time to reopen.
04/13/2020 01:01 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Kristin East	Reopen that state. Allow those at risk to isolate if they want.
04/13/2020 01:03 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Doug Gullette	We need to reopen NC, and put people back to work. Small business and families are suffering. The cure is doing more damage than the disease.
04/13/2020 01:03 PM	Economic Support	None Kim Greene	You need to weigh heavily the effects of remaining closed past April. Local and small

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	Working Group		businesses will suffer greatly. More than they already have . And regular hard working people may lose everything. #re-opennc
04/13/2020 01:04 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Tim Fortune	It is time to reopen NC! We the citizens are sick of this fear mongering to destroy our ways of life.
04/13/2020 01:04 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Cori McQueen	Hi, I live in Carolina Beach, NC. I do know the importance of shutting down short term rentals to slow the spread but wondering if opening the beaches to residents can be considered. Thanks for your time!
04/13/2020 01:06 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Lynn Bensy	Get this state open for business. Ppl can sear masks and stay 6 feet apart, if necessary. We MUST open this country!!
04/13/2020 01:07 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Peter Benson	As a small business owner we are all being hammered by this shut down. Many are worse the we are but its very bad especially now that we see that the actual effect of this pandemic is not even close to what was expected. Lets recommend that sick or compromised people stay home & open the state back up for business as usual. The treatment has been way worse that the illness this time, lets not kill the patient trying to save them
04/13/2020 01:08 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Open NC! Sharon Meade	This is drastically affecting my mental health as well as the economy. Please reopen our state and let people get back to work. We do not shut down for the flu which kills more people every year.
04/13/2020 01:08 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ron Hall	Get people back to work, government doesn't pay Our bills, but their media caused panic buying, no plans , no info, only pork-barrel politicians and their agendas...
04/13/2020 01:10 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Kim Rogers	Support our freedom and liberties and let us get back to work. All market sectors are hurting, hospitals that are closing, small and large business closing forever, service and retail industries, real karate and development, people out of work and not getting unemployment at all or not nearly enough to pay bills. Our freedoms have been taken. Cooper is destroying people's lives, hurting their health, and stomping on their constitutional rights. Reopen North Carolina.
04/13/2020 01:11 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Dr Steve Bravy	I support providing paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all impacted workers, including "gig workers", as well as support for vulnerable small businesses.
04/13/2020 01:12 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Amy Tyson	We have got to open our economy! The far reaching economic impact will be devastating to N.C. At this point none of my self employed friends(or myself) have qualified for unemployment. How can the lawmakers of this state take our ability to financially support ourselves and then deny us what we were told we would receive? Put N.C. back to work! The self employed tax payers of N.C. are hurting! Open the boat ramps, parks and all of our beaches! Allow NC home owners to enter their second homes without passing through a gestapo style check point and stop local government from overstepping their bounds. This has gotten extremely out of control! I understand we will need to have social distancing, mask and testing but we have to start moving toward lifting the stay at home order the end April. We CAN NOT afford another month this!
04/13/2020 01:14 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Sarah DeYoung	Good afternoon!

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			<p>I am a lifelong resident of North Carolina. I love our state. However, I am seeing it slip away day after day. I understand the need to balance public safety and business. After April, let's reopen the state. Let's encourage those who are at-risk to stay at home, and let's work as a community to support those people. Those who are at low risk should be encouraged to get back to work, while also taking precautions. The longer we stay closed, the more individuals will suffer. We may save lives in the next couple of months, but lives will also be lost due to depression, alcoholism, and drug use when people lose their businesses, their jobs, and their way to support their family. We've stayed at home, flattened the curve, and shut down the state. Let's get back to living.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Sarah DeYoung Greensboro, NC</p>
04/13/2020 01:14 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Sharon McGee	We need to reopen NC ASAP. Small business owners are suffering with no income. The state's website for small business or independent contractors affected will not even be operational until April 25???!!!! The numbers do not support us staying closed any longer. Figure out how to safely open on May 1, 2020. Please!!!
04/13/2020 01:15 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Darlene Dill	It is my hope and my recommendation that this committee would choose to open the state back up on May 1, 2020. 86 deaths (as of this request) does not warrant the shut down of this state. Our citizens need to work. Covid-19 has turned out by all models and speculations to be not as threatening as once assumed. Based on the sheer numbers alone we must open our state back up for business and our schools for education on May, 1, 2020.
04/13/2020 01:19 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Clyn Barber	Open the state back up for business, now.
04/13/2020 01:21 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Elizabeth Anne Temple	I am a voting North Carolina citizen of Johnston County, and I am urging the current Gov. Cooper to reopen N.C. by April 30, 2020. We cannot let this shutdown continue as his decisions are damaging our communities and people! #REOPENNC!
04/13/2020 01:21 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Amy Lynn Kelley	Request to consider the limited impact of COVID-19 on NC and begin lifting restrictions to avoid catastrophic impact economically - NC is not NYC and should tailor statewide restrictions to reflect very small (while precious lives) number of people affected. We can keep restrictions active in at-risk places such as nursing homes, while allowing small businesses, churches, schools and so forth resume soon. Even nurses at Duke and UNC are losing shifts due to hospitals sitting unused. The effects of loss of jobs and closing of businesses is going to cause more negative results with families beginning to be food insecure, violence and mental health issues due to financial stress, and a statewide system not prepared for millions to be unemployed and have basic needs met. Thank you and trusting that decisions will be made with wisdom for this next season.
04/13/2020 01:23 PM	Economic Support Working Group	COVID-19 Chasity Sincavage	I suggest they re-open NC
04/13/2020 01:23 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Covid 19 reopen NC Christine Little	Reopen NC!!! Natural herd immunity it the only way! Closing schools and businesses was a huge mistake! 98% survival rate is not a crisis! NC infringed on the rights of all North Carolinians by forcing them to stay home, loosing their jobs, stunt education, and make

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			<p>religious worship difficult and in most cases impossible!</p> <p>No mandatory vaccines! You can not mandate what was "unavoidable risk"!</p> <p>The CDC and WHO lied when it came to the real numbers of cases and deaths! The people should not be punished because there is corruption in our government, organizations, and agency's!</p> <p>OPEN NC NOW!!!!</p>
04/13/2020 01:26 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Michael Drogo	<p>At what point does the solution to the Covid-19 Virus become worse than the virus itself? I for one am more worried about what this quarantine and business /work shut down is doing to our country and our way of life. At some point the solution of shutting this economy down does become more dangerous than this virus. That's hard for some people to hear and I get that, but your feelings and your fear don't make it any less true.</p> <p>For instance, when we go to war, what are we going to war for? Answer; It's to preserve our way of life. Period. And we have been willing for generations to sacrifice lives to that end. This is not any different.</p> <p>This incredible engine that is the American economy IS our national defense. We rely on it and need it for our survival. Otherwise we will be over-run or just become another 2nd or 3rd world country. Why would we allow that to happen? Fear? Cowardice? If we allow that to happen, we would be destroying everything the greatest generation and all those generations before us fought and died for.</p> <p>It's sad that we allowed fear to shut down the greatest country with the greatest ever economy over a virus that "IF" you get it you still have a 98% recovery rate. And if you take Hydroxychloroquine the recovery numbers are closer to 99 – 100%.</p> <p>Re-Open North Carolina Now!!!</p>
04/13/2020 01:27 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Miriam Naef	<p>Time to get back to work, and not be a police state . We the people can use common sense</p> <p>A quarantine is when you restrict movement of the sick people.</p> <p>A tyranny is when you restrict movement of healthy people.</p>
04/13/2020 01:28 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Stormie Speaks	<p>Our state, our community, our businesses are suffering. We've been given no criteria in reference to opening up our great state once again. Flatten the curve? Quarantine the sick. Let the healthy work so we aren't drowning in debt and destruction. It's time to reopen our state.</p>
04/13/2020 01:29 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Bradley Yandell	<p>Please reopen our economy. The negative economic impact far outweighs any deaths from Covid-19. Covid-19 death models are extremely exaggerated and are always wrong. The seasonal Flu killed 61,000 Americans in 2017-2018 and our economy was not shut down. Allow us Americans to live like Americans. Let's take precautions, protect the elderly and those with compromised immune system, but let healthy Americans return to work. We need to allow the Herd Immunity to take effect until a vaccine is developed. Reopen our economy!</p>
04/13/2020 01:29 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Opening up NC Kimberley Hardy	<p>I believe that guidance from our President should be our guidelines for our state. This time of partial shut down is about flattening the curve, it was and isn't about stopping the virus. Unfortunately others will get it and some will die , but fully opening up our businesses</p>

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			must occur when guidance comes from our President. Reinforce the presidential guidelines from the task force: wash hands, stay home when sick or having fever, wash hands, don't touch your face, wash hands, social distancing by not shaking hands, wash hands. It is most important to wash hands. We must open back up when it is indicated by our President of the USA. Also businesses should be advised to work with those employees who are at risk and those employees when they get sick so they can stay at home and work. Any businesses that can still allow their employees to work from home should be encouraged to continue to let them do so as they had done in the beginning of the Presidents Guidelines in March 2020. Keeping the public schools closed is still a good idea and pass all students to next level as advised by their teachers. University's should be able to open back up. These are all adults and are capable of making decisions over their well being. Social distancing measures can be utilized, spacing for lines, sneeze guards for clerks, but complete social distancing cannot continue. It has to be modified and allow individuals to use their common sense. I do understand others will get the virus, but unless an area becomes a high concern, the virus will run its course. Contact tracing must be prioritized! Keep in place stricter rules on hospitals , isolation of those with the virus within the hospitals and stricter rules over the nursing homes. Unfortunately I do understand limiting visitors with those who are sick in the hospitals and those in nursing homes upset many, but it must be done to protect those who are at high risk.
04/13/2020 01:29 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Hannah Bezanson	We cannot let our state be shut down any longer. It is damaging our citizens and our state economy. The hospitals are nowhere near capacity, and the models predicting the outcomes from this virus were very far off. There is no legitimate need for a shutdown. It is time to reopen NC immediately.
04/13/2020 01:30 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Stop the madness Timothy Patton	The madness of the shutdown in general is staggering but to ban the sale of "non essential" items is utter insanity. Who judges what I should be able to purchase I'm a working person and I have things I need to buy on a regular basis and trying to limit how many people can gather is an assault on my first amendment rights! Not my privileges my rights so please stop this tyrannical overreach now. Before more of our rights are thrown away. Freedom is inherently dangerous but I would rather have the dangers of freedom over the attempted temporary incapable security's the government could offer
04/13/2020 01:31 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Jobs Josh Kemp	Small businesses are getting crushed, my own small business is doing less than half what it used to. If people lose their houses and businesses I think that's MORE important than the virus ?? and should be considered!
04/13/2020 01:33 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Annette Adrian	Reopen NC now!
04/13/2020 01:35 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Kristen Bissette	Re open NC. Allow people to use good judgment to return to work and daily life. The Governor should not close the state thruJune!!
04/13/2020 01:36 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Business owner Carlton Thompkins	Open this Country back up
04/13/2020 01:37 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Heather West	It is time for businesses to reopen. I know too many families that are being hurt because they are unable to work. The longer it takes to reopen the economy, the longer it will take for them to get back on their feet. Please help them. People are more afraid of losing their livelihoods than they are of this virus. Enough is enough.
04/13/2020 01:39 PM	Economic Support	Jennifer OGuinn	Open the doors to our healthy working force! Our economy is dying a slow death, our small

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	Working Group		business owners losing the ability to stay a float. And no government assistance has come through and all our bills still have to be paid. We need N.C. back to work!
04/13/2020 01:39 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Lindsay Brantley	<p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>I am writing today, April 13, 2020 to convey my immense fear and frustration with the economic halt that the shutdown has caused for North Carolina. As a small business owner of a thriving pre covid19 dental office we have had over 80% loss in revenue since the shutdown. We employ 14 individuals and have applied for the federal cares act PPP loan. We have yet to receive it and are doing everything we can to continue to employ these 14 individuals and not go bankrupt. Because NC government did not prepare administratively for the massive unemployment surge, we want to make sure our people are still taken care of. I have heard from countless individuals in the dental field who sought unemployment reimbursement that after two weeks their applications are still pending. North Carolinians are going to begin to go hungry, steal, and have increased suicide rates because Roy Cooper has refused to let them work. Please end this government overreach. The casualties amassed from COVID-19 in this rural state are not reflective of the total population and do not justify 10 million people halting life. We are not New York or Florida. Please govern according to our unique situation, instead of fearing the political repercussions of acting with a clear mind. What plans have been made to reopen? Have you considered asking for voluntary social isolation from the vulnerable? Have you considered asking individuals to wear masks in the work place? This is a respiratory virus that would be severely limited by these measures. I beg of you to consider North Carolina's economic future and reopen our state immediately.</p>
04/13/2020 01:40 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Regional Director Karen Perez	My small business is dependent on NC being open. My families income depends on me working and this is getting scary the longer we stay closed. The virus is attacking such a small portion of the population. Hospitals are furloughing nurses because our hospitals are empty. The flu comes every year and kills thousands, but we don't shut down the state. Re open NC people need to get back to work.
04/13/2020 01:40 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Roger Adrian	Reopen NC now
04/13/2020 01:43 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Kelly Lucas	NC back to work. The governor should not decide. The people should decide and take appropriate precautions and still work.
04/13/2020 01:44 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Lisa Riegel	<p>On behalf of our 1.1 million AARP members and their families across the state, AARP North Carolina thanks you for your leadership in response to COVID-19. We have been closely monitoring efforts by the legislature to enact policies dealing with this crisis in our state. We commend you for taking swift actions to protect our residents – especially those in the vulnerable 50+ community. Today, we write to offer support for the UI Response Act, which provides emergency flexibility to our state's unemployment program. More than 10 million Americans applied for unemployment insurance across the country in the first two weeks of the COVID-19 crisis. One third of our country's workforce is age 50 or older. We know that older workers are often forced to seek temporary or part time work that pays less and does not provide healthcare benefits. Additionally, older workers tend to remain out of work longer. We appreciate that you are taking swift action to soften the economic blow to struggling, out-of-work residents across the state.</p> <p>AARP North Carolina commends the Committee for providing access to state</p>

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			<p>unemployment benefits for employees who become unemployed or underemployed due to stay-at-home orders that prevent the operation of local businesses, those who are quarantined at the instruction of a healthcare provider, and those who fall ill to the virus. Further, we support the bill's waiving of the waiting week to access benefits and work search requirements in light of this unprecedented crisis.</p> <p>We encourage you to consider adding caregivers impacted by the virus to the list of those who can receive unemployment benefits. Many employees are primary caregivers for a loved one with a chronic disease, who may be particularly affected by infectious diseases like COVID-19. We need to better support these critical family caregivers, especially since they prop up our state economy. In 2019, AARP's Public Policy Institute found that 1.33 million family caregivers in North Carolina are providing an estimated 1.1 billion hours of care to ensure the health and well-being of parents, spouses, partners, and friends with chronic, disabling, or serious health conditions. The care they provide is worth a staggering \$13.1 billion and enables people to live independently in their homes and communities as they age. These numbers will likely increase in light of the COVID 19 pandemic and thus the need is even more urgent to better support these critical caregivers.</p> <p>AARP North Carolina also supports the work the state is doing to implement new federal unemployment insurance programs. In March, Congress enacted the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which provides \$260 billion in enhanced unemployment insurance to workers who are being furloughed, laid off, or find themselves without work through no fault of their own because of the COVID-19 pandemic and our public health response to it. We urge you take swift action to implement any requirements of the CARES Act, so as to take full advantage of federal funds as quickly as possible.</p> <p>AARP North Carolina applauds the Committee's work to make our state's unemployment insurance program more flexible in light of COVID-19, and stands to work with you to enact solutions to this pressing crisis.</p>
04/13/2020 01:44 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Amy Mann	<p>I would like to let Governor Cooper and all of the other representatives for North Carolina to know that I feel strongly that we should NOT extend the stay at home order past April 30th. My husband and I own a small business in NC and that is our only source of income to provide for our family, to pay our bills, and to employ other employees which also needs to provide for their families as well. Our income has already dropped significantly and going past the April 30th deadline could be very devastating for our business, our employees and our livelihood. The numbers currently being presented shows that there is no need for further "stay at home orders" and I feel that our constitutional rights are being infringed upon more and more with each passing day. If this order is extended I fear that we will have a much worse situation to deal with than just the virus. I fear that people will start to "flight or fight". Crime will increase, more medical issues (physical and mental) will tax the doctors and hospitals as well. I hope and pray that you all will seek divine inspiration and guidance from our Lord and Savior and do what is right and help to preserve our constitutional rights that our forefathers fought so hard to put into place. If you feel that "we the people" are wrong then how about you all go without a paycheck for</p>

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			<p>awhile and see what it feels like to have to worry and stress over how you will pay your bills and feed your families. Again I really am praying that you will pray and seek guidance during this very, very difficult time for our country and our state!</p> <p>Thanks Amy Mann Burlington NC</p>
04/13/2020 01:47 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Genelle Gardner	We need to reopen our state and get businesses open and people back to work. This needs to happen before May 1, 2020. Our numbers of those infected are low in North Carolina and those number do not support the current orders. Also, restricting the movements of healthy people is tyranny. Stop the tyranny and put government back in its place! Government in the United States is meant to be controlled by the people. What we have happening in our state and in many states across the country is the exact opposite. This is unlawful and must end!
04/13/2020 01:48 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Shari Lynn	North Carolina needs to open up again. The data regarding Covid-19 has been spurious and our infection rate has been since day 1 has been very low compared to past flu seasons. The media has fanned the flames of fear and misinformation. People are struggling to pay rent and put food on their table. Many citizens of NC are ready to get back to life. Those who are immune-suppressed can continue to take active measures of protection and isolation, but there is no data to support keeping healthy and robust NC citizens from returning to work in order to keep our great state running.
04/13/2020 01:49 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Jennifer Suter	Reopen NC businesses by April 30. We still take precautions as needed to protect ourselves, but businesses need to be allowed to reopen.
04/13/2020 01:49 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Reopen this state! Seth Bow	Please please please reopen this state! Physical health and ultimate security can not mean we all go bankrupt in our jobs and businesses! Our financial health needs to be considered. Those at high risk, such as elderly or immune suppressed are welcome to stay home, wear gloves use hand sanitizer or whatever! these blanket shut down dictates are killing us financially in NC and need to end. Take precautions but lets get back to work and back to business and not enter a 1930s style depression!
04/13/2020 01:49 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Charles Norwood	I would like to see low infection rate areas opened for business as soon as is feasible.
04/13/2020 01:50 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Renee Marston	Please reopen our state. The data does not validate the stay home actions and closings of our small businesses. Even the essential businesses are hurting. Healthcare workers all over the state are having their hours cut or experiencing temporary changes in their schedules. Domestic abuse and child abuse is growing. Families need to feed their children and children need to be in school. Some children are home alone and missing education. Thank you for your time and consideration.
04/13/2020 01:51 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Jill Jaynes	I'd like to see ALL of the data that Gov Roy Cooper is being advised by/with that suggests the shutting of residents and the free flow of commerce. I would be interested in particular to know of the "flashpoint" data he referenced in limiting free access by the public to essential stores. I would also like all of his edicts to be referenced to the powers outlined in the NC State Constitution.
04/13/2020 01:53 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Faith Olsen	I greatly respect the work of government to mitigate health concerns surrounding the coronavirus. However, from the beginning of the shutdown, I strongly felt the need for an

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04/13/2020 01:53 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Sara Dowdy	<p>end date. Our economy cannot survive an open-ended way of operating. COVID19 stats, unemployment stats seem to support a re-open of our economy ASAP.</p> <p>Thank you for taking the time to review my comments. I strongly urge the legislature to create an expedient plan to reopen North Carolina in all respects. Furthermore, the overbearing restrictions put in place regarding daycare and childcare need to be lifted immediately. Child care is a critical component our states economy, and limits the impact even essential workers can have during this time. We can all support not sending sick children to daycare. However, I urge you to find a valid reason on why a child with a runny nose cannot return to daycare with a doctors note. All communications indicate that there are no exceptions to the rule that children must stay out of daycare for 7 days if they have these symptoms: fever greater than 100.4, sore throat, cough, shortness of breath, runny nose and diarrhea. These overbearing restrictions do nothing but create more lost income for the daycare and limit the working contributions of parents to the economy.</p>
04/13/2020 01:56 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Re-Open North Carolina Jon Bass	<p>At the end of the current stay at home orders conclusion or sooner North Carolinians should be allowed to start returning back to work. Obviously we can do this with current health issues under advisement including but not limited to; washing your hands thoroughly throughout the day, if you have a fever don't come to work, to the best of your ability practice social distancing, et. al. Every American takes risk every day of their lives and we are comfortable with that risk including driving to work, meeting people we don't know in doing our jobs, leaving our children at daycare, trusting our teachers to properly educate our children, traveling in general, et. al. Fear may have been used by the state and federal government to help push the public to take this situation seriously but you can not perpetually just tell us to fear everything. At a point more and more of the population will not except "fear" as the answer why our lives can't start to put back to normal. We are comfortable with logical precautions but we are not comfortable with the hope and prayer that are government will keep meeting our financial, physical and mental wellness. Health professionals are a great resource to make educated decisions from but we the people of the United States and North Carolina did not elect them. We need a logical balance of health and financial decision making. We can't wait for zero risk because life is risk and most of us are comfortable with more risks than normal in order to feed our families, achieve our goals and to enjoy our lives. Please move forward with opening our economy back at or before the stay at home order ends.</p>
04/13/2020 01:56 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Janis Cunningham	<p>We must reopen most counties in NC no later than May 1. Many counties have active cases in the single digits and few or no hospitalizations. I can see handling counties with high numbers (Meck, Wake, Durham) a little more gradually. I can see recommending those at higher risk like elderly and those with health conditions. But for most counties, we need to send people back to work so they don't lose everything they have worked hard for. I do not see losing jobs, businesses, or homes being good for physical or mental health, and right now, far more people stand to suffer from this than from the virus. Please reopen May 1!</p>
04/13/2020 01:57 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Todd Lavine	<p>Thank you all for your service to the people in our great state of NC!!!</p> <p>To all who are concerned, I am a free citizen of North Carolina and the executive orders put in place by Governor Cooper have not benefited the state. As a matter of fact, they have done more to hurt the</p>

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			economy and soon they will collapse it. Thus far, there has not been any sort of surge in illness as proposed or suggested by NCHHS and the governor's office. Many hospitals are well below normal capacity while healthcare professionals are being furloughed. So many businesses are closed and many may never reopen. Many of the people have put their entire life into their businesses only to see their American dream turn into a nightmare losing everything. Employees are without pay and means to support themselves and their families. These executive orders infringe upon our civil liberties and constitutionally protects rights. We the people of North Carolina demand that the governor rescinds these orders and reopens our state immediately allowing people to get back to work. This needs to end and we the people demand it!
04/13/2020 01:58 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Michael Atwood	Immediately revoke the state of emergency and stay at home order, no such health emergency exists. The only emergency in our state is the one caused by the governor and local government who enacted these orders and have cause unprecedented damage to our economy and put almost 600,000 NC citizens out of a job in a few weeks. This is simply the only action to take, all other actions will be worked out by the sense and personal responsibility of the citizens and business themselves. Hold Governor Cooper responsible for the damage he has caused and have the damage paid back to the citizens and businesses by lower taxes and less government, spend your time figuring out how to do that and we the good people of the state will take care of ourselves just fine.
04/13/2020 01:59 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Margie Suggs	It is time to open up our state. Give senior citizens a time to shop to protect them.
04/13/2020 01:59 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Walter Vaughn	You know and I know, that shutting a country down was wrong. On top If that Christians are being targets, locked up, tickets, punished, and you claim to be an American!
04/13/2020 01:59 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Candy Hege	NC needs to get back to work! Shutting down our state and our country is not a sustainable way to deal with this virus. We can't live under the doctrine that's been put on us. The economic and mental problems the stay home order is causing far outweigh any illness from Covid. We've totally lost our freedom at this point. Our state and our country needs our revenue!! I also believe someone in our government needs to address how the media is reporting on this and how that's lead to more social issues. I could give you more examples of the problems this is causing and how we can't get our basic needs met.
04/13/2020 02:00 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Brian Moser	We need to take a common-sense approach to our state's economy and move toward reopening our businesses sooner rather than later. One size does not fit all - measures that may be needed in New York City aren't necessarily needed in North Carolina, and measures that may be needed in Charlotte and the Triad aren't necessarily needed in our more rural counties. We can open our state back up for business, and help our business owners, both small and large, while still maintaining vigilance in defeating this virus. Closing down our economy while putting a burden on state and federal governments and treasuries while potentially bankrupting small businesses is NOT the answer. The rate of new daily cases is now below 5% (as of this morning) in the US for the first time since we had the first known infection in this country. We moved quickly to stall the virus' spread, and now we need to move quickly to save our economy.
04/13/2020 02:01 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Doni Juarez	Our state (actually our whole nation) can not continue with this shut down. We do not quarantine the healthy, we quarantine the sick and infirm. Anyone who is afraid of catching

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			<p>this virus, or who is concerned about a family member, who is at risk, can take appropriate protective measures, up to and including quarantine. For the sake of the health, safety, and mental fortitude of all of the rest of us, we need to reopen our state.</p> <p>Many businesses are at risk of shutting down forever. This is not good for that business, their customers, the community as a whole, nor the economic welfare of the community, county, and state.</p> <p>Panic has held reign for too long. It is time to recognize that, as awful as this disease is, it is just another disease. I do not discount the fact that people are dying from this disease, but we have more people dying daily from many other causes. It is time for level heads to recognize that this shut down is not really making a difference. Okay, MAYBE we "flattened the curve". But it is the end of the cold and flu season, and it is quite likely that, just as other viruses do, this will fade away until next season.</p> <p>Please think about the possibility that bankruptcy and destitution could lead to many more deaths and crime. There really is a lot to take into consideration, and I pray that you will think about all of this and open our great state back up, before it is too late.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
04/13/2020 02:03 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Avery Bissette	Reopen NC! Do not keep it closed thru June.
04/13/2020 02:04 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Blair Meads	I would like to request consideration that the state open back up to business no later then May 1, 2020. It has become clear that we did our job in flattening the curve. Our hospitals are no where near capacity. At this point we need to go back to work and save ourselves from a catastrophic economic down turn like we have never seen before. Please, open our state back up. Thank you.
04/13/2020 02:07 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Jeff Brafford	Reopen North Carolina!
04/13/2020 02:09 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Dawn Christine	<p>Reopen NC!!!</p> <p>Follow Dr. Shiva Ayyadurai's recommendations to restore the immune and economic health of the American people in the open letter that he provided to the president on March 23,2020. According to Dr. Shiva, there is no need to shutdown our entire country. There is no need to quarantine all of our citizens. The solution is to provide a path to advance the immune health of all our citizens while getting our healthy people back to work - now.</p>
04/13/2020 02:11 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Time to reopen NC Lorie Brinkley	I am of the firm belief that it is high time to open NC back for business. The huge amount of cases they were expecting to see aren't there and we are killing our economy for our kids. Let us use common sense and protect the elderly and weak and get life going again!
04/13/2020 02:12 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Tabitha Woodard	It is time to get NC back open. #ReopenNC Too many people are out of work and people need to start being able to work to pay our bills and buy food for our families. This has taken a serious toll on my business!
04/13/2020 02:13 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Chris Matney	I am in favor of gradually opening businesses back up on May 1st. The economic toll that the shutting down of businesses is having on NC families is going to be too difficult to recover from if we continue to stay closed much longer.
04/13/2020 02:14 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr David Stevens	Please open back up business in NC. At this point the cure is way worse than the disease!! Please!!! Use common sense. PLEASE

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04/13/2020 02:16 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Kristin McCora	Open up our state! End the shutdown! We want our freedom back!!
04/13/2020 02:16 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Deputy Sheriff Jonathan Keen	We have to open things back up. We are killing our small business owners. Many of them will never recover from this. At some point very soon keeping people at home is going to start having more of a negative effect than positive, if we are not already at that point.
04/13/2020 02:18 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Frances Langley	We need to get North Carolina back open & back to work on May 1st. The risk to loss for our citizens is worse than the risk of illness.
04/13/2020 02:21 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Susan Pifer	Social distancing should be encouraged without closing down our society. At risk individuals should be responsible for their own safety without disrupting the livelihoods of the healthy. We all are constitutionally granted life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.
04/13/2020 02:21 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Sherry Pippen	Open our state back up please. It can be done with some common sense. Media is driving this madness do not allow it to continue. Not all hospitals are having issues. Some have furloughed employees.
04/13/2020 02:22 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Dr William Link	<p>If the shutdown continues past April, you will destroy the economy in this state. The numbers are now showing to be overblown and the steps taken excessive and destructive. The shut down is/has done more harm than imaginable.</p> <p>It's is unthinkable as well that the state, counties and cities continue to tax, collect fees the citizens when the shut down was state mandated. There should be no state sales tax, gas tax, property taxes etc and collection of governmental fees. This tax and fee relief must go for 6-9-12 months because of the damage this measure has caused. Small businesses will not recover immediately-it will take months or maybe years.</p> <p>If the shutdown continues, you will essentially destroy the majority of small businesses in the state and the state will suffer. You are taking your citizens livelihoods away every day this continues.</p>
04/13/2020 02:23 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Robin Vouga	Please allow people to go back to work immediately! The hospitals are not seeing huge numbers and in fact, are suffering and laying off people because anything that's not Covid-19 has been cancelled. Pilots can't fly. Real Estate is at a standstill. Let's protect those who need protecting (elderly, immunocompromised and those with co-morbid conditions) and let everyone else get back to work! We can't afford much more of this!
04/13/2020 02:23 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Reopen NC Olivia Gonzalez	Please allow us small business/self employed workers to open back up at our discretion. I cannot survive on zero income!
04/13/2020 02:24 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Office Administrator Denise Wilson	I feel it is important to start reopening our state no later than the first of May. Keep the social distancing and sanitizing as much as possible. The people who are high risk of complications should be given the option to continue their quarantine with possible help, be it unemployment, stimulus funds, etc. Maybe have them produce proof from their doctor. Keeping nursing homes closed to the public and implementing more testing so we know who is hopefully immune. Our country is in danger of ruining the economy. Too many people live paycheck to paycheck and will lose everything if we continue to do this. I'd rather take my chances with the virus than lose everything that I have worked for.
04/13/2020 02:25 PM	Economic Support	Emily Saunders	Our situation in North Carolina absolutely does not support keeping our State shut down

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	Working Group		beyond April 30th. I have seen zero statistics that warrant continuing to keep things shut down. We are fortunate that North Carolina has not seen a huge spike in cases and as of today roughly .04% of our citizens have been diagnosed with COVID. Not only is our State on the brink of economic ruin, but the long term effects on families, children, and individuals suffering from abuse, mental health challenges, personal financial devastation, hunger, lack of access to needed medical care for non-COVID problems, and lack of appropriate education are overwhelming. The solution cannot be bigger than the problem. Please re-open North Carolina!
04/13/2020 02:26 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Brooke McKenzie	We need to reopen NC. The current stats and numbers do not support a continued shut down. Our economy needs us to reopen the state and start working again. People need to freely worship.
04/13/2020 02:26 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Lauren Smith	I am writing to request that the state of North Carolina be relieved from the current restrictions. The economic and other consequences that are being caused by this policy far outweigh the small percentage (less than 1%) of our state population that have tested positive for COVID-19. A quarantine is for the sick, not the healthy. We must re-open our state - and without requirements such as testing and vaccines that impede liberty - and we can continue to encourage our most vulnerable to stay home if needed. The wise solution is to build natural immunity among the healthy, while using easily available and inexpensive treatments that are already known for those who need it. Many people are suffering from economic instability and lack of healthcare services for other needs. Please return our state to its normal, vibrant, and free condition.
			Thank You -
04/13/2020 02:26 PM	Economic Support Working Group	MaryAnn Durborrow	Please reopen NC! These closures and restrictions are hurting our citizens financially, mentally and educationally. Small businesses can not last much longer. SBA grants/ loans are not coming through fast enough if at all. ALL citizens should not be forced to quarantine, it should be left to those who are health compromised to decide if they want to self quarantine. So many of our constitutional rights are being infringed upon. This is not the free America I know, this is socialism with a dictator sitting in the people's house in Raleigh still drawing a paycheck from the very people who provide for him. Set us free!
04/13/2020 02:27 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Patricia Rammacher	Please stop the small town mayors from passing their overreach directives. No going to your 2nd - even though you will be practicing the same safe guidelines set by the president. You can't walk in the beach, surf in the water, walk nature trails. This is insane. Reopen NC may 1st.
04/13/2020 02:28 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Laura Haddox	Reopen NC!!! Follow Dr. Shiva Ayyadurai's recommendations to restore the immune and economic health of the American people in the open letter that he provided to the president on March 23,2020. According to Dr. Shiva, there is no need to shutdown our entire country. There is no need to quarantine all of our citizens. The solution is to provide a path to advance the immune health of all our citizens while getting our healthy people back to work - now."
04/13/2020 02:28 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Cindy Mondello	I am unsure by your "categories, so I just selected the one that seems to fit most. I'm writing today as a concerned North Carolina voter. I vehemently oppose the continued

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			<p>shutdown of our state and the Unconstitutional orders in place. The data does not support the actions taken by our state government. As an American, I have inalienable rights recognized by the Constitution granted by my Creator and these orders and arrests are in direct violation.</p> <p>As leaders of North Carolina, what are you doing to get NC back to work? We need a REOPEN NC plan now to implement on May 1. Action taken now will directly influence how I vote in November.</p> <p>Please be informed that I am one of the "at-risk" population. I received a kidney transplant on December 4, 2018. I KNOW how to take care of myself in regard to this virus. Our economy should NOT be hijacked by the officials that WE THE PEOPLE put in place due to fear mongering media and a socialist approach to mitigating the virus.</p>
04/13/2020 02:31 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Diane Parnell	Re-Open North Carolina! Most of us have been social distancing/staying home for weeks now. I understand this virus is contagious, but so is the flu. We have been through the Bird Flu, Sars, and others, but the government has never been this far-reaching! I believe this shut down is largely political. Why would you want to destroy the booming economy of North Carolina? Do you intend on destroying the small businessman that has been the backbone of NC? Re-Open NC. We will still act with caution, but do not destroy those dependent on public business!
04/13/2020 02:32 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Open NC Laura Piedad	My husband and I own our own business. We will be unable to pay our mortgage and continue to put food in the table for our children. End these unconstitutional restrictions on our movement and livelihoods.
04/13/2020 02:32 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ashley C	Hairstylist need to go back to work May 1st!
04/13/2020 02:34 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Reopen NC Harry McCora	You have taken Liberty (telling people they can't work) taken the pursuit of happiness (telling people they can't go to church) and the only thing left is taking our life. We will not go down without a fight. Re-open NC!!!
04/13/2020 02:35 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Christie Chadwick	I am against these harsh stay at home orders. The extreme measures are disproportionate to the threats of COVID-19. Reopen NC.
04/13/2020 02:39 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Reopen NC Amanda M	The current stats not not support NC being shutdown any longer. Families are suffering, small businesses are suffering & shutting down. As a small business owner we cannot handle the stress and lack of income much longer.
04/13/2020 02:40 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Betty Bass	Please have the Governor OPEN OUR STATE BACK UP!! The people who are out of work need to be able to provide for their families and pay their bills. Unemployment is not enough. It is only a small portion of their income. I haven't even been able to get unemployment with have a temporary job finished without it having a pending resolution. PLEASE OPEN THE STATE BACK UP so I can at least be able to go for interviews if I can. Thank you for your prompt response to getting this done!!
04/13/2020 02:40 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Cale Lineberger	I would like to have my comments heard on the vivid 19 pandemic as it relates to economic devastation. We need to get things put in place so the economy can start to move and function again. It is killing our small businesses and hiring others. Our society can not afford to be closed to everything based on what might happen on a scale of something no more deadly than what we have on our hands here.

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04/13/2020 02:41 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Stacey Towne	As a self employed business owner who has been almost completely shut down due to the heavy restrictions placed on our community, I implore you to reopen our state. If you wait much longer there will be catastrophic economic hurdles that we will not bounce back from.
04/13/2020 02:42 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Luke Scanlon	Reopen NC
04/13/2020 02:43 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Christie Paschke	<p>To Whom This May Concern,</p> <p>As a healthcare professional, researcher, and citizen of NC, I urge you to reopen our State. As revealed in the past several weeks, the numbers don't support the restrictions being placed on this great state! For anyone who understands how viral infections spread, you must know that this is ridiculous!</p> <p>Do the right thing for the people of this State...open it up and eliminate reliance on government.</p>
04/13/2020 02:44 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Betty Bass	Also, I have worked with a domestic violence shelter and know people who are not able to get out will be fighting even more due to the constraints of being out of work and also not being able to see it do other things as they want to. PLEASE OPEN THE STATE BACK UP!!!
04/13/2020 02:44 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Carrie Howland	Please reopen NC by May 1st. Many small business owners like myself are not able to provide for their families and pay our mortgages. Large companies are laying off or cutting salaries. The virus numbers do not support the closure of the economy. It just doesn't make sense. Please help NC families by letting us get back to work.
04/13/2020 02:44 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Time to move forward Stacey Gorham	<p>I am concerned with the long term economic impacts of continuing a shutdown in our state. Our hospitals are not overrun which was supposed to be the goal of the shutdown. Not protection from the virus. Healthcare workers in our state are being furloughed, having hours cut, and pay cuts. a group local to LKN just laid off 35 Drs. Local businesses are announcing indefinite closures. We files for a loan and despite the lender telling is that our credit was fine and we would be approved in normal circumstances, the investors are holding on to their money to ride it out. Mitigation with interest rates did NOT work. Domestic violence and mental health are deteriorating faster than the virus spreads. We need to open now! We need to protect our constitutional rights which did not have an exemption for viruses. Business and property owners are being told they cannot access or use their property at will however are still being told their taxes will be collected. The state is robbing people of their livelihood and individual autonomy. We can instill policy that allows the most vulnerable and sick to stay home and steer resources to them while allowing the healthy to move forward. Food is becoming hard to come by with limits, lines and delivery options scarce. Please do what is right and respect the constitutional oath you swore to uphold and support those who need it but allow those who need to move forward to do so. It would save the budget by applying targeted resources to the smaller minority of those at risk versus covering the entire population. This is just not sustainable. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to share my thoughts.</p>
04/13/2020 02:45 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Renee Harrell	I am a small business owner of a hair salon. I can guarantee our clients are safer from any kind of germs while inside my salon than they are at ANY grocery store, Wal Mart, or other retail locations. If we are forced to continue to be closed, I am not sure I can stay in

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			business. Please open NC up, keep the restrictions at the large retailers, keep restrictions asking people not to gather in large groups, ask small businesses to re-open with frequent cleaning/sanitizing and limiting the number of people allowed inside, advise the elderly and immune compromised to continue to stay at home. This shut down is going to cause permanent economic damage in NC if allowed to continue! Thank you for listening to the small business owners and very concerned private citizens of NC!
04/13/2020 02:46 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Douglas McCraw	As of 4/13/2020 and from the current order of now Governor Roy Cooper concerning the COVID-19, the order is having devastating effects on the financial and mental stability of families, retirees and senior citizens. Furthermore, small businesses and the future growth of large corporations; which employ large numbers of North Carolinians, are being completely torn apart. I am a small business owner, and each and every day is a continuous challenge to make the ends meet! The latest data indicates a person has two tenths of one percent chance of catching COVID-19 and a 98 percent chance of a full and complete recovery. Why are businesses still being mandated to remain closed? Why are North Carolinians being ordered to stay at home? Why is the order a state wide blanket order when .0004 percent of the population in NC has been infected by COVID-19, of all the cases reported in NC; it's only a minute fraction of the total population and of all the reported deaths from the COVID-19, the fraction of the population is even smaller, .0000086 percent. According to NCDHHS as of 4/13/2020: Laboratory-Confirmed Cases=4,816 Death=86 Completed Test=63,388 Currently Hospitalized=313 Number of Counties=92 Why is NC closed for business, why are children not being allowed to attend school and why are North Carolinians freedoms being choked? Open NC and get North Carolinians back to normal and allowed to achieve prosperity and live life with liberty and freedom!
04/13/2020 02:46 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Kim F	The numbers do not support the shut down of the NC economy. In my county alone, people have been ignoring the stay at home order and the growth of the virus has been sluggish at best. Camp Lejeune is located in our town and there's still little to no growth! My husband's hours at the hospital have been cut because there's not enough patient volume to justify keeping it fully staffed. Governor Cooper has completely overstepped his position and has claimed powers not belonging to any government official. Please do not allow him to trample over our Constitutional rights!! Please reopen the economy!!
04/13/2020 02:46 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Ray Brincefield	Open all courts bars restaurants businesses ,etc May 1 with strict occupancy guidelines and strict distancing guidelines . If you have a cough or fever stay home , period . If you are at risk , stay away from people , just like now .
04/13/2020 02:48 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Open NC back up. Zachary Sink	We must open NC back up for business ASAP. The number of deaths and cases in our state do not constitute a continued lock down our our small businesses and communities will end up suffering for years to come. This isn't New York. Not to mention these lock down laws are also unconstitutional.
04/13/2020 02:49 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Reopen NC David Eskridge	Please reopen NC and restore the ability for bars, restaurants, and other currently restricted small business to operate and serve customers immediately. Allow the burden of risk for contracting the virus to be placed upon the citizen. Shift the focus of shelter in place to high risk individuals exclusively.

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04/13/2020 02:50 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Derek Vasselin	<p>First off, I want to note that the virus is one of several problems. The economic problem is just as big, and actions by government may have unintentionally made things worse. Reason being, lockdowns and economic downturns bring the real and increased risk of suicide, domestic abuse, poverty, civil unrest, etc. Poverty in particular is damaging to health. Impoverished nations see increased starvation, malnutrition, and deaths from treatable disease.</p> <p>Economics is more than numbers on a stock chart or corporate profits. Economics is directly tied to human health.</p> <p>For the solutions, I saw the other day a UNC/Duke model* showed that extending the current situation past April 29 gives us about a 20% chance of overwhelming healthcare. Lifting all shutdowns and "going back to normal" gives a 50% chance of exceeding healthcare capacity.</p> <p>Models are only as good at the assumptions. And so I'll assume 50% may be too much a risk while 20% seems too low to justify all the lockdowns and hardships. So I have two possible reopening scenarios to suggest.</p> <p>1st Option:</p> <p>The hardest hit areas will be the major cities (Charlotte and Raleigh). They'll likely be hit hardest no matter what, so maybe the percentages above are slightly higher there, and lower in rural regions.</p> <p>So I'd suggest to reopen at the state level, and let Meck/Wake county make their own decisions going forward. This would help many low income families outside the cities, where their risk of widespread transmission is lower (less population density).</p> <p>2nd Option (my preferred option):</p> <p>The other could be to reopen everything, but with restrictions (e.g. Texas). Let small businesses, restaurants, bars, etc open. They aren't going to be packed anyways, even after reopening as some people will still be nervous to go out.</p> <p>Businesses could open with safety precautions in place to limit the spread but provide much needed economic relief. We could draw the line at large gatherings like concerts, sporting events, etc until later in the summer when the major risk finally subsides and the summer heat comes in to play. We could also continue to encourage working from home, for those who can during that same extended period.</p> <p>I think fully reopening on May 1 will panic some people and could be too early. But it's insanity that we leave grocery stores open where entire communities congregate and shut down restaurants and barbershops where few people are in contact at any one point in time.</p> <p>And please get more antibody tests! This may have already passed through much of the</p>

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			population without us realizing which means the death rate could be significantly lower than the 2%.
			* https://twitter.com/JeffJacksonNC/status/1247254824988610560?s=20
04/13/2020 02:50 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Business Owner Micah Daniels	Thank you for all you has done in an effort to protect NC citizens. Due to the data and the low percentage affecting NC citizens, please reopen NC. Our businesses will not survive if we are not allowed to work and commerce is not encouraged. I'm begging you to loosen restrictions and begin setting a date for reopen. We can no longer cower in fear of a virus and lose our rights as citizens in addition to our businesses and everything for which we have worked. Please do not let it become economically irreparable.
04/13/2020 02:50 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Janet Jones	I support limited, responsible re-opening of NC. Our hospitals are at or near lowest patient bed load in 17 years in places. Citizens needing medical and dental care cannot get it unless deemed Emergent. Veterinarians are limited in animal care. I.E,I have a dog with possible anal gland infection, the vet could not perform a routine anal gland expression because its deemed grooming by the Governor, which put MEat a health risk. The essential stores are crowded, groceries still being hoarded. Please, to the extent possible, loosen some of the non-essential restrictions. People are congregating in the few places open. Open restaurants, maybe limited seating at first, take the burden off the grocery stores. Open parks, some vehicle limits, or out of state tags could be enforced. Give people a CHANCE to get their animals taken care of, their colonoscopies and heart stents performed. PLEASE. There will be plenty of people like me, over 60, immune compromised that will STILL make the right decision to stay out of crowds. But it will open the opportunity that WHEN I need to go to the doctor, I can. And when I have to grocery shop, which is certainly essential, I won't be competing with every other person in the store at one time, furthering my risk, NOT mitigating my risk. We have to have some loosening of these restrictions, as its mass chaos at this point. I respectfully ask for your help with a more balanced approach.
04/13/2020 02:51 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Angela Kirsch	Please review the data. NC is in really good shape compared to other places. The spread of this virus can be controlled in certain sections in NC without destroying the majority of the population's lives and livelihoods.
04/13/2020 02:51 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Reopen North Carolina Emily Kusz	Please reopen NC! This is ruining our economy & the livelihoods of so many NC residents! Unemployment rates are skyrocketing! It is important to note that while unemployment rates, the rates of suicide and death by hunger also rise!!!
04/13/2020 02:53 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Kathy Craven	#ReopenNC. Please allow small business owners to get back to work!!! I demand restoration of our personal civil rights to conduct business, travel freely and gather in groups however we desire.
04/13/2020 02:54 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Kris Russell	We need to open NC back up immediately. The virus numbers nationwide let alone in our state do not justify this shut down. They were wrong and overstated from the beginning and as we gather more and more factual data and statistics it just doesn't justify a shutdown. We keep hearing of hospitals LAYING OFF staff, non-COVID patients dying alone because family is prevented from seeing them, small businesses collapsing and individual freedoms being hindered. Not to mention sheltering in place will not stop the spread of a virus that can only be contained through herd immunity. We can NOT keep everyone quarantined until a vaccine

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			is created nor can we force vaccinate. We need to open the state up ASAP and focus on protecting those at risk. The elderly and immune compromised can be sheltered - and anyone else who wishes to self quarantine - but let the rest of us go back to work!!
04/13/2020 02:54 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Angry American Conservati Mary Kimbro	I demand an end of the shut-down immediately.
04/13/2020 02:55 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Lynda Mastronardo	I believe that North Carolina should reopen for May 1st. Those at higher risk have the option to continue to self distance without penalty. Let's get the economy going again, we will have bigger issues at hand if our economy crashes as a state as well as a country.
04/13/2020 02:56 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Walter Woodard	Its time to get the state going again. We've been sitting idle for too long. Our hospitals are not overwhelmed (500 or less currently hospitalized.) Keeping people out of work longer isn't going to help any more..
04/13/2020 02:56 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Janie Wagstaff	WE MUST REOPEN OUR STATE. THOSE THAT STILL WISH TO SHELTER MAY DO SO. GIVE BUSINESSES A CHANCE FOR SURVIVAL.
04/13/2020 02:57 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Joy Spradley	I vehemently oppose the continued destruction of NC's economy by this unconstitutional lock down. I also oppose any plan to make a COVID vaccine mandatory. PROTECT Medical Freedoms and Protect Religious Freedoms. REOPEN NC by May 1.
04/13/2020 02:58 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Lindsey Miller	Reopen NC! Our non essential employees NEED to get back to work. The unemployment system was not prepared for the magnitude of people who have needed assistance during this time. We are seeing a decrease in COVID-19 cases, and even still, the percentage of individuals sick with COVID-19 is far too minimal for this to be considered an emergency..... we need our state to reopen!!
04/13/2020 02:59 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Erin Pepper	I was forced to close my small business and currently have NO income. I have been unsuccessful in getting unemployment and on a "waiting list" with bank for a loan. Meanwhile my bank account has gone into the negative. I have no money to feed me or my kids. This is inhumane!!!!!! This state should be ashamed of what it has done to people like me .
04/13/2020 03:00 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Angie Reams	I am a self employed hair stylist. Also a single mom and this was my only source of income. I've been out of work for 3 weeks. No unemployment no stimulus check. I am deon to less than \$100 dollars in the bank. I am not in any way making light of this virus. I believe it is real and horrible. But I know what goes on in my salon. I have my own private room I sanatize after each client and wash my hands. Not for one second do I think someone had a greater chance of getting covid 19 in my chair than at Walmart or a fast food restaurant. Those places are nasty. I believe each individual should have the right to continue making and honest living. If I were sick I would stay home and my clients would also. I would be willing to wear a mask if I could work. I feel like my right are being taken away from me by a governor dictating that I can't go to work. The unemployment has been a nightmare for our industry we have all been denied and are told the system will start processing our stuff on the 25th. That is totally unacceptable. What do we do in the meantime??? My children like to eat and I like to have electricity. There is no right solution I am sure but I personally don't believe the virus will go away until we are all exposed minus the elderly and immune compromised. Let us be exposed and get it over with and go on about life. This solution is only prolonging the problem. Because when we all get to come back together will it not break out then? I can't make it much longer with no income I

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04/13/2020 03:00 PM	Economic Support Working Group		don't have parents who can help and don't receive child support. Please help. The current stats and numbers do not support a continued shut down. Our fellow North Carolinians and our economy need us to reopen the state and get back to work NOW!