

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

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
04/27/2020 05:46 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Unemployment Tina Tucker	<p>The N.C. House Select Committee on COVID-19 Economic Support Working Group has convened four times for remote meetings regarding economic issues impacting N.C. due to COVID-19 since March 31, 2020. They have yet to make any legitimate or measurable progress on UNEMPLOYMENT claims due to COVID. Committee members are THE PEOPLES' representatives! We call to you for help and each meeting it becomes more obvious WE ARE NOT BEING HEARD. You have been busy drafting legislation on many economic issues impacted by COVID 19 but the UNEMPLOYMENT claims process is still being IGNORED!</p> <p>PHONE LINES are overrun! Over 100,000 phone calls and counting.. PER DAY. Your constituents are being hung up on and ignored!</p> <p>Questionnaires are worded unclearly and hard to answer! How can we give accurate information when the verbiage is unclear?</p> <p>Claim processes are not streamlined! The website os constantly timing out and takes several submission attempts to complete one page. Error correction is nearly impossible!</p> <p>We NEED and DESERVE to be heard. The whole unemployment system needs to be reformed through emergency action! There has to be other options! The CARES Act gives the states the ability to find these additional options, to hire more, and gives the right to implement what is needed to get claims processed quickly and efficiently.</p> <p>We demand that a plan to REFORM to the unemployment claims process be put on the agenda NOW! Find a quick solution to the call center issue NOW!</p>
04/27/2020 07:29 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Edd Lovette	<p>The State shutdown was initiated to control the load on the hospital system, which I agreed with. So now that has been controlled why are we still shutdown?</p> <p>I was still ok to go through the end of April but why extend it to May 8th? My fear is that Governor Cooper intends to continue extended the date for weeks or months beyond that date.</p> <p>Please do something to stop the madness!</p>
04/27/2020 07:38 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Keep us safe Beth WILKINSON	<p>Follow medical and scientific recommendations. Opening too soon could be deadly to many and cause us to have to close again , causing more economic hardship.</p> <p>Gov. Cooper has a plan that protects public health and our frontline essential workers while we reopen the state in stages based on medical and scientific knowledge. Please do not listen to the rantings of Reopen NC, To follow the lead of extremists would be dangerous and highly irresponsible. North Carolina is better and smarter than this. Thank you.</p>

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
04/27/2020 09:08 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Robert Apple	Open up the State. Quit just handing out tax dollars like it is candy. People can stand in line to buy toilet paper, they can stand in line to vote as they have about 10 weeks prior due to early voting. Cut taxes, repeal regulations, send private schools their fair share of lottery money,. Believe Tara Reade.
04/28/2020 07:54 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Walter Pavlik II	<p>I truly understand that it is a hardship for many businesses dealing with the needed shelter in place order for the COVID-19 Pandemic response.</p> <p>However, it is necessary. We have been able to keep the spread of this disease in check ONLY because we have been staying isolated from those who can come in contact with the disease and then spread it unknowingly.</p> <p>It's up to us to continue to stay apart, so we can let this thing die out.</p> <p>The other part of that equation is we MUST help those who earned a living being in close contact with others as part of their vocation. They are hurting on multiple levels.</p> <p>Financially, of course, but also with the fear that they may not be able to work in their chosen professions and earn a living for maybe a year. We need a social safety net to remain in place for them until we are past this Pandemic. People need to know that when this is all over, choosing the careers of hairdresser, nail technician, licensed massage therapists, servers in restaurants, and many more careers that provide valuable services to many people can still support them and their families.</p> <p>What this pandemic has shown us is we can, and should do better by our citizens who provide VALUABLE services that aren't measured just on a balance sheet. They've been taking care of us, it's time to make sure we take care of them.</p>
04/28/2020 07:54 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Walter Pavlik II	<p>I truly understand that it is a hardship for many businesses dealing with the needed shelter in place order for the COVID-19 Pandemic response.</p> <p>However, it is necessary. We have been able to keep the spread of this disease in check ONLY because we have been staying isolated from those who can come in contact with the disease and then spread it unknowingly.</p> <p>It's up to us to continue to stay apart, so we can let this thing die out.</p> <p>The other part of that equation is we MUST help those who earned a living being in close contact with others as part of their vocation. They are hurting on multiple levels.</p> <p>Financially, of course, but also with the fear that they may not be able to work in their chosen professions and earn a living for maybe a year. We need a social safety net to remain in place for them until we are past this Pandemic. People need to know that when this is all over, choosing the careers of hairdresser, nail technician, licensed massage therapists, servers in restaurants, and many more careers that provide valuable services to many people can still support them and their families.</p> <p>What this pandemic has shown us is we can, and should do better by our citizens who provide VALUABLE services that aren't measured just on a balance sheet. They've been taking care of us, it's time to make sure we take care of them.</p>
04/28/2020 08:47 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Todd Beck	Please consider the granting of an extension on vehicle state inspections during this time.
04/28/2020 10:18 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Debbie DeLoreto	It is time to re-open North Carolina and let us get back to our jobs, our businesses and our lives. Our personal freedoms have been infringed upon long enough. The whole premise for the lockdown was to curb the spread and keep hospital capacity low. Both have been attained. Now our Governor is just playing politics and it is time for someone to have courage to stand up to him. Open up North Carolina now before there is no business to go

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
04/28/2020 11:55 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Syon	<p>back to. We do not want anymore government bailouts. Stop this insanity.</p> <p>So far I appreciate the shutdown in North Carolina that has clearly reduced the spread of COVID-19. It is especially comforting because my parents work in health care and I have an elderly grandmother, so effective prevention policies are really important to me. I think that economically, very intentional steps need to be taken before opening back up fully. For example, testing is still not widely available and I think the state would benefit greatly from a new disease tracing workforce. That would both help with unemployment and help us open back up safely. Until then, we still aren't equipped to open up and if we do it seems like we risk a second wave of the disease which could be more deadly similar to the Spanish Flu. I hope the Committee considers public health and intentionally helps out the people of North Carolina economically as we enter a new recession.</p>
04/28/2020 02:00 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Joseph Ince	<p>I am writing to express my strong displeasure with the continuation of Governor Coopers draconian overreaching stay home order. Not only do I believe that Governor Cooper has overstepped his constitutional authority but I also believe the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The stay at home order was to flatten the curve which has been accomplished but now the order has been extended based on entirely new criteria that were never part of the original order. 2. The stay at home order is unconstitutional due to the random and discriminatory nature it treats people differently. 3. Evidence continues to surface that COVID-19 is not as dangerous as the wildly flawed models predicted it to be. The infection and Death rate in North Carolina in no way justifies robbing so many of their rights to and placing them on house arrest. <p>It is time to lift the stay at home order, allow businesses to open and set their own protection rules and the state should spend its limited resources on keeping the health system prepared and protecting the most at risk.</p> <p>Finally, The North Carolina Legislature needs to clarify current statute to protect our state from being taken advantage of again the next time a Governor wants to arbitrarily order millions of people to stay home on house arrest.</p>
04/28/2020 02:46 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms.. Jamie Forbes	<p>I am an attorney representing an unemployment claimant who was furloughed on April 6, 2020. Claim was filed on-line on April 7. Twenty-one days has elapsed with no determination. How are these claimants supposed to maintain basic necessities for themselves and their families? Why aren't all necessary resources being provided to this unemployment agency so that claims can be timely determined? The pandemic was not the fault of these claimants and their families. The delay is unacceptable.</p>
04/28/2020 03:17 PM	Economic Support Working Group	1959 Susan Haithcock	<p>reopen NC!!!</p>
04/28/2020 03:36 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Internet for Farmworkers Student Action with Farmworkers	<p>This year, many of the service providers who normally visit migrant labor camps to provide in-person health education, language classes, and connections to other resources are suspending or drastically reducing their in-person outreach work. Migrant farmworkers urgently need access to internet so that they can still access these services as well as the latest information about COVID-19 from the Governor's office, NCDHHS and the CDC.</p> <p>We are asking the NC General Assembly to include funding for broadband internet in their</p>

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			COVID-19 response, so that farmers and other migrant housing providers can install high speed internet that can accommodate video calls or live internet broadcasts in all housing.
04/28/2020 05:17 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Laura Haldane	It's time to let young healthy people go back to work and to open up businesses. Data is revealing more and more that this coronavirus is not as virulent as originally thought. For the overwhelming majority of young people without serious health conditions, COVID-19 is mild or asymptomatic.
04/28/2020 06:32 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Bessie Keaton	I support providing paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all impacted workers, including "gig workers," as well as equitable support for vulnerable small businesses.
04/29/2020 07:28 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Sandra Holcombe	Reopen NC. Economy is failing. Deaths from Covid-19 are minimal compared to entire population.
04/29/2020 08:54 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Meredith Heywood	It is time to set apart differences and work together to hole NC together during a time of crisis. I could not support Governor Copper more as he helps us through these times. I am fully supporting the stay at home order, wearing a mask when I pick up groceries, we are doing our part to flatten the virus. I am not a supporter of the protesters, many of us feel like they are undoing all our hard work. It makes me sad that they hold no respect for our healthcare workers. We all have rights, I feel like they are taking my rights away from me. If they feel so strongly I would hope they would find a way to help, delivery food, check on neighbors, go help at the local hospital, make mask, donate to the food bank. Let us all work together.
04/29/2020 11:48 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Andria Krewson	Regarding unemployment compensation, two points: - Please raise the 20% cap on exempt earnings while receiving unemployment compensation. The existing cap discourages workers from earning above the cap and keeps them at near-poverty levels of income. Their option is to do as workers in other states have done, asking to be paid "under the table," which then denies tax to the state; - Please delete the rule that counts pension earnings against unemployment compensation eligibility, reducing or eliminating compensation. Current rules exempt social security income from being counted against unemployment compensation. It makes no sense to treat private or state-paid pension income differently.
04/29/2020 12:00 PM	Economic Support Working Group	MS DORIS H. KIDWELL	Thank you for your time. Please follow health guidelines and time lines as suggested by our NC governor in reopening our businesses. I do not want to start over this isolation program in a month just because we couldn't stay the course to be safe! We need testing and follow up on contacts to stop the virus. Please be strong, do your job and protect NC voters. We are all AMERICANS!
04/30/2020 07:21 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Amy Glass	I support making voting by mail much more accessible including free return mail postage (while ensuring accuracy and reliability in the process), address your comments to this working group. For more information read Protecting our democracy in North Carolina

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			during the COVID-19 crisis - https://www.commoncause.org/north-carolina/democracy-wire/protecting-our-democracy-in-north-carolina-during-the-covid-19-crisis/
04/30/2020 03:54 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Margaret Smith	Please make sure to include in funding request language for historically underutilized small businesses in collaboration with the Office for Historically Underutilized Businesses.
05/01/2020 02:39 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Chris Lougee	Hello. I wish to inform you I would like my rights, and my communities rights back. I feel we are all capable,competent and compassionate enough to dictate our selves with respect to the situation at hand. Thank you!
05/01/2020 06:48 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Dr. Eric Smith	We need to open this state. We are still operating off of models and ignoring the real data that shows this virus does NOT deserve the radical approach of lockdowns. Our state is only beginning to feel the financial repercussions of this. We need to open the state back up with precautions, but open! Normal public health process is to isolate the sick, not to isolate the healthy. This prevents herd immunity and makes a second wave inevitable. More people will die from the lockdowns than will succumb to the virus.
05/01/2020 10:03 AM	Economic Support Working Group		Please re-look at Governor Cooper's Phase 1. It doesn't make sense that all small businesses can not open if they abide by the same sanitation and social distancing rules. And churches! Please do the right thing.
05/01/2020 11:23 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Laura Haldane	Our Constitution does not give our Governor dictatorial powers. This is no longer an emergency. It is time for legislators to do their jobs, represent the people, and end the Governor's dictates. Data and facts do not support lock down policies. Fact 1: The overwhelming majority of people do not have any significant risk of dying from COVID-19. Fact 2: Protecting older, at-risk people eliminates hospital overcrowding. Fact 3: Vital population immunity is prevented by total isolation policies, prolonging the problem. Fact 4: People are dying and facing permanent disability because other medical care is not getting done. Fact 5: We have a clearly defined population at risk who can be protected with targeted measures.
05/01/2020 03:42 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Diana Boseman	Governer Cooper, you have stated that we would not reopen until we have 14 consecutive days if downward trends. After looking at the NC Dashboard we are NOT on track to reopen on the 8th. Stay true to your word and do mot open us too early. Lives depend on YOU. You have many that support you, the polls show it. You just don't hear us trying to break in your back gate because we are smart enough to stay home like you have asked.
05/01/2020 03:46 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Katherine Dennett	We should reopen when guidelines are met, 14 days of a decrease in cases.
05/01/2020 04:59 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Michele Hobaugh	Stay home!!!!
05/01/2020 07:30 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Linda Neal	Request to delay level 1 until we have 14 days of decline of covid19 cases. Please put public health ahead of politics or economy.
05/03/2020 03:24 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Keep NC Closed Rose Mason	Please extend the stay at home order for a few more weeks. Our state has so many sick people. It's too soon to reopen NC

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
05/04/2020 05:29 AM	Economic Support Working Group	gakratom gakratom	lk kratomwhat.weebly.com cloud 9 kratom
05/04/2020 10:24 AM	Economic Support Working Group		Re look at Phase 1! It is too strict. NC has flattened the curve, we need to get back to work.