

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

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
03/31/2020 03:03 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms. Lynne Walter, MSW	I was deeply disturbed while listening to the Continuity of State Operations meeting online today when legislators advocated for allowing the state to contract with private security forces to work in North Carolina's prisons during the COVID-19 pandemic. What kind of oversight would there be of private security forces to ensure they do not abuse people who are incarcerated or prison staff? This is a bad idea.
03/31/2020 03:04 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Kevan Woodson	<p>I am asking you to pursue a bold and sustained response to the COVID-19 that makes sure people across the state regardless of who they are, where they work or where they come from are protected at this moment.</p> <p>We need your leadership to drive state-level dollars to families and people and ensure our public programs—from education to healthcare to early childhood to social services—have what is needed to respond to this moment and sustain our collective well-being in the future.</p> <p>Please move quickly to fix the state's unemployment insurance, ensure people have access to paid sick leave and provide the supports to young children and families to put food on the table and a home in which to shelter in place. Your leadership is needed and we know that it will matter so much at this moment that you strengthen our collective institutions. We can afford to do it and cannot afford not to. ALSO: The NC Legislature needs to expand Medicaid now!</p>
03/31/2020 03:07 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Dr Sherene Min	We should move toward greater accessibility to voting in November. To that end, we should be developing secure ways to allow for vote by mail, without requiring individual requests or onerous witnesses. There are ways that other states have developed broad vote by mail access, while keeping it secure. For instance, Washington state has developed a secure way to allow universal vote by mail. We should do the same in NC to be seen as a leader in the South, rather than continuing to confirm the concern around voter suppression in our state. If we need to raise funds to allow vote by mail, you should require support from individuals in the state with financial means.
03/31/2020 03:21 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Kathy Henson	Why isn't there any discussion of immediately expanding Medicaid and fast tracking enrollment for folks who are currently uninsured during a pandemic?
03/31/2020 03:29 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Rosemary Peduzzi	In this horrifying time of pandemic disease, I find it outrageous that our state's representatives in government had not previously made it a priority to assure health care coverage through Medicaid to all who need it – and MANY need it if they are to be healthy and able contributors to our state. Now that Covid-19 is breathing down our collective throats, taking action could not be more urgent. Our state and country need HEALTHY PEOPLE working in all sorts of jobs if those people and their families are going to survive and thrive AND if our economy is going to heal and grow strong following this epidemic. We cannot have one without the other. Please have the courage to do what is so obviously the right thing and expand Medicaid in North Carolina. Our legislators will be examples of pathetic weakness if they do not, and many people will continue to suffer unnecessarily.
03/31/2020 03:38 PM	Economic Support	Mr Geoffrey	Please implement MEDICAID for those without health insurance immediately.

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	Working Group	Santoliquido	Restore unemployment benefits to earlier levels in place prior to the cutbacks.
03/31/2020 03:46 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Jodi Flick	Please cover the uninsured in North Carolina by expanding Medicaid. It will bring in federal funds and it will help people who lose jobs or are furloughed get affordable health care without having to go to the ER and stay healthy so they are able to work again after the crisis is over.?? Please act quickly! Thank you.
03/31/2020 03:46 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Mariana Gamble	<p>I am asking you to pursue a bold and sustained response to the COVID-19 that makes sure people across the state regardless of who they are, where they work or where they come from are protected in this moment.</p> <p>We need your leadership to drive state level dollars to families and people and ensure our public programs—from education to healthcare to early childhood to social services—have what is needed to respond to this moment and sustain our collective well-being in the future.</p> <p>Please move quickly to fix the state's unemployment insurance, ensure people have access to paid sick leave, and provide the supports to young children and families to put food on the table and a home in which to shelter in place. Your leadership is needed and we know that it will matter so much in this moment that you strengthen our collective institutions. We can afford to do it and cannot afford not to. ALSO: The NC Legislature needs to expand Medicaid now!</p>
03/31/2020 03:47 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Rev. Richard Robinson	Besides the guidelines given from the state are embalmed bodies still able to infect people who view them and is there a time limit in viewing remains for the public and funeral home staff?
03/31/2020 03:57 PM	Economic Support Working Group	CPA Michael Mitchell	Will the interest on tax returns due 4/15/2020 be forgiven through new legislation like the Feds under their COVID-19 stimulus acts? My e-mail is mike@mdmitchellcpa.com. My cell is 910-964-2632. Thank you!
03/31/2020 03:57 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms Astrid Duarte	It will be very important that every voter has the opportunity to exercise their right to vote. In November we must ensure that mail in voting and early voting are expanded. The covid 19 pandemic must not be used to justify a reduction in our ability to participate in fair and just elections. The health of our democracy is at stake.
03/31/2020 04:19 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Pam Bloom	<p>North Carolina's economy is only as strong as the economic security of people living on low incomes and in poverty. I urge you to make sure that people whose work and wages are at risk are the first needs that you address in your response.</p> <p>It is only by making sure people have income or wage replacement that they can stay in their home and put food on the table, and small businesses employing people in our community—like child care centers and retailers—can be supported.</p> <p>We must act with urgency to bolster programs and policies that serve as economic shock absorbers so families and communities can weather the coming storm. This response should not pursue flawed policy agendas that would give tax breaks to big companies</p>

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			without accountability to people nor further enrich the already wealthy.
			We urge you to lead North Carolina in this moment with a vision for what the economy needs—a focus on what people need to be well.
03/31/2020 04:20 PM	Health Care Working Group	Pam Bloom	<p>Your leadership on the COVID-19 response in North Carolina is critical to containing the spread of this novel virus and protecting everyone's health.</p> <p>I hope you will propose bold policies and investments that make sure our healthcare professionals have the protection and supplies to combat this virus safely, that broaden access to free testing and treatment, and that allow everyone the ability to practice social distancing and stay home from work without loss of income and while maintaining their basic needs.</p> <p>We know that to protect the public's health we need to make sure our healthcare system serves everyone. This means we need to close the coverage gap, provide access to care for all people regardless of immigration status, and make sure we are driving resources and support to those people most excluded historically in our policy response.</p> <p>Protecting public health and containing COVID-19 will require our state to make investments in our healthcare, healthcare workforce and the supports to healthy living that we need now more than ever.</p>
03/31/2020 04:21 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Pam Bloom	<p>I am asking you to pursue a bold and sustained response to the COVID-19 that makes sure people across the state regardless of who they are, where they work or where they come from are protected in this moment.</p> <p>We need your leadership to drive state level dollars to families and people and ensure our public programs—from education to healthcare to early childhood to social services—have what is needed to respond to this moment and sustain our collective well-being in the future.</p> <p>Please move quickly to fix the state's unemployment insurance, ensure people have access to paid sick leave, and provide the supports to young children and families to put food on the table and a home in which to shelter in place. Your leadership is needed and we know that it will matter so much in this moment that you strengthen our collective institutions. We can afford to do it and cannot afford not to.</p>
03/31/2020 04:23 PM	Health Care Working Group	Dr William Luking	<p>I am a family physician trying to care for thousands of patients in Rockingham County, NC. (Phil Berger's home county) Already I have had non-insured patients who would be covered my Medicaid--had we expanded--refusing to get the proper work up for coronavirus. This could sadly lead to unnecessary fatalities. Our county struggles with the cost of uninsured prisoners requiring costly care which must be reimbursed by the county. It is a looming scandal and crisis that our county will have astronomical bills regarding this pandemic when (not if) it strikes the jail. Phil Berger's home town of Eden has a hospital which already declared bankruptcy once, with no Medicaid expansion and the sudden increase of unpaid services sure to come shortly; I fear our hospital in Eden will be lost. Many will lose their insurance locally, and without Medicaid expansion, there will be a cascade of shuttered medical clinics that will surely follow. We will all pay a steep price for</p>

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			having left our state vulnerable to such a mess!
03/31/2020 04:28 PM	Health Care Working Group	Peggy Weil	Medicaid expansion makes sure that hospitals and community health centers can keep their doors open during this crisis by being compensated to provide care.
03/31/2020 04:44 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Rev. Mary McGlaulin	While it is way past time to expand Medicaid in North Carolina, this pandemic is a dramatic illustration of why doing so is so critical to the public health and economy of our State. I implore you to please make every effort to expand Medicaid now.
03/31/2020 04:44 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs. Angela MacLean	I am curious about teacher bonuses for student growth this year. If we are not getting EVAAS this year, does that mean there will be no teacher bonuses for growth? I'm thinking of the 3rd Grade Reading Bonus and the bonuses to 4th/5th grade teachers for growth math and reading. Thanks for any info on how this will work.
03/31/2020 05:04 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Harvey Himberg	In light of the current situation, please: (1) Make it easier for all NC voters to have the ability to cast a ballot by mail (2) Provide counties the resources to recruit more pollworkers for November (3) Give counties the flexibility they need to create, and more funds to support, early voting plans that reflect the needs for the fall election (4) Also, ensure any and all government meetings that occur remotely during this time are fully open and transparent to the people of North Carolina
03/31/2020 05:05 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mr. Steven West	<p>Send Comments to NC House COVID-19 Committee</p> <p>The harm to people — particularly those historically excluded from opportunity and those who have been excluded from federal relief — must be the focus of state efforts. You may also use the comment templates below to share with legislative members the importance of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Focusing on people first * Supporting public institutions and infrastructure * Sustaining a strong economy <p>Do you have five minutes to take action? Use these templates from the NC Justice Center to guide your comments!*</p> <p>People First Message I am asking you to pursue a bold and sustained response to the COVID-19 that makes sure people across the state regardless of who they are, where they work or where they come from are protected in this moment. We need your leadership to drive state level dollars to families and people and ensure our public programs—from education to healthcare to early childhood to social services—have what is needed to respond to this moment and sustain our collective well-being in the future. Please move quickly to fix the state's unemployment insurance, ensure people have access to paid sick leave, and provide the supports to young children and families to put food on the table and a home in which to shelter in place. Your leadership is needed and we know that it will matter so much in this moment that you strengthen our collective institutions. We can afford to do it and cannot afford not to. ALSO: The NC Legislature needs to expand Medicaid now!</p>

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			<p>Public Health Message</p> <p>Your leadership on the COVID-19 response in North Carolina is critical to containing the spread of this novel virus and protecting everyone's health.</p> <p>I hope you will propose bold policies and investments that make sure our healthcare professionals have the protection and supplies to combat this virus safely, that broaden access to free testing and treatment, and that allow everyone the ability to practice social distancing and stay home from work without loss of income and while maintaining their basic needs.</p> <p>We know that to protect the public's health we need to make sure our healthcare system serves everyone. This means we need to close the coverage gap, provide access to care for all people regardless of immigration status, and make sure we are driving resources and support to those people most excluded historically in our policy response.</p> <p>Protecting public health and containing COVID-19 will require our state to make investments in our healthcare, healthcare workforce and the supports to healthy living that we need now more than ever. ALSO: The NC Legislature needs to expand Medicaid now!</p> <p>Economy Message</p> <p>North Carolina's economy is only as strong as the economic security of people living on low incomes and in poverty. I urge you to make sure that people whose work and wages are at risk are the first needs that you address in your response.</p> <p>It is only by making sure people have income or wage replacement that they can stay in their home and put food on the table, and small businesses employing people in our community—like child care centers and retailers—can be supported.</p> <p>We must act with urgency to bolster programs and policies that serve as economic shock absorbers so families and communities can weather the coming storm. This response should not pursue flawed policy agendas that would give tax breaks to big companies without accountability to people nor further enrich the already wealthy.</p> <p>*</p>
03/31/2020 05:17 PM	Health Care Working Group	Amanda Wood	<p>Hi, I work in the healthcare nonprofit field in NC and I am writing to request Medicaid Expansion for the state of North Carolina. It would cover more than 500,000 people who need healthcare access now more than ever, while in the midst of this public health crisis. It requires no increase in state taxes and can be done quickly to help address fallout from the ongoing pandemic. Employees who work in essential businesses that may not provide health insurance benefits, like grocery stores, restaurants, convenience stores, etc., are more likely to be uninsured and fall within NC's current senseless coverage gap. All of North Carolina is at risk when any of our neighbors are uninsured and unable to get the care they need, especially right now. Medicaid expansion also ensures that hospitals and community health centers can keep their doors open during this crisis by being compensated to provide essential medical care. This is an issue that should not be an issue. Please do the right thing and expand Medicaid so that there is no coverage gap in our state.</p>
03/31/2020 05:21 PM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Becky Reavis	<p>I am asking you to pursue a bold and sustained response to the COVID-19 that makes sure people across the state regardless of who they are, where they work, or where they come from are protected in this moment.</p> <p>We need your leadership to drive state-level dollars to families and people and ensure our public programs—from education to healthcare to early childhood to social services—have</p>

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			<p>what is needed to respond to this moment and sustain our collective well-being in the future.</p> <p>Please move quickly to fix the state's unemployment insurance, ensure people have access to paid sick leave, and provide the supports to young children and families to put food on the table and a home in which to shelter in place. Your leadership is needed and we know that it will matter so much in this moment that you strengthen our collective institutions. We cannot afford not to do.</p> <p>The NC Legislature needs to expand Medicaid now! As a psychologist, I see, during "normal times" how devastating the effect of not having private insurance or Medicaid can be. It is anticipated to be much worse during this crisis. This is your chance to make a significant difference in the lives of many North Carolinians, and I urge you to do so.</p> <p>Sincerely, Becky Reavis, Ph.D. Licensed Psychologist Lincolnton, NC</p>
03/31/2020 05:23 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms Debora Winstead	<p>Due to the limitations in free movement and risks pertaining to COVID19, it is more important than ever that voting by mail be considered a viable practice for voters to have their vote counted this election. In order to arrest this pervasive and highly contagious disease, voting by mail is necessary. All Americans are entitled for their votes to be counted, but first their constitutional right to vote must be insured. Making it difficult for citizens to vote, goes against the very life of Democracy. I urge that those charged with securing and protecting this sacred right, take necessary steps to have an accepted standard in our election process.</p>
03/31/2020 05:34 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Marjorie Storch	<p>It's critical that we expand Medicaid now to make it easy for those who will lose jobs and become uninsured to access healthcare. Allow anyone who loses their healthcare insurance to immediately enroll in Medicaid, even for just 6-12 months or until the economy rebounds. This will provide tremendous support to many desperate North Carolinians and bring millions of Federal dollars to help support our state healthcare facilities during this pandemic.</p> <p>Access to sick leave and leave to care for family members is critical so sick or exposed people aren't forced to work, endangering their own health and that of others. Other social supports, such as access to food, housing stability, and child care contribute to the health and general welfare of North Carolinians.</p> <p>The COVID 19 pandemic shows the desperate need for Improved Medicare for All which will be the work of Congress when they learn the lessons from the current pandemic crisis! Health care should be for everyone, not tied to employment or economic status.</p>
03/31/2020 05:36 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs. Rusty Unger	<p>I strongly urge you to allow mail-in voting in the 2020 election. Clearly, this would give NC residents of every age and health condition the best chance to employ a U.S. citizen's right to elect the candidates of their choice.</p>

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03/31/2020 05:37 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ryan Franz	I am wondering if North Carolina will do the same as other states and offer state provided grants to local small businesses. We have a restaurant and wanted to apply for a state grant (similar to IL,CA,CO) and many others have. I attempted to contact the governs office but no one was there to answer before 330. Thank you for all of your hard work at this time.
03/31/2020 06:09 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs. Suzanne Gould	Mailing in votes is needed to get through this serious national health emergency because we do not know how long this is going to last.
03/31/2020 06:39 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Dr Sondra Stein	Dear Committee Members: I am gravely concerned that we may still be confronting the COVID-19 virus in October/ November when we will be facing a Presidential election. The best way to protect all of us and at the same time support our constitutionally-mandated election, is to put in place a comprehensive, statewide vote-by-mail system that enables everyone who id registered to vote to vote by mail from the convenience of their "shelter-at-home" site. Thank you very much,
03/31/2020 06:57 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Jeff Tuson	<p>I am writing to ask you to take care of ALL North Carolinians in this unprecedented crisis.</p> <p>Whatever measures you put in place, please focus first on people and families whose work life was suddenly upended. People need unemployment insurance and paid sick leave for their own sake and for the sake of their co-workers and the general public. I personally know several people who suddenly lost jobs and consequently their health insurance. They need to be protected and assured ongoing access to health care coverage.</p> <p>We also need to provide testing and treatment to anyone who needs it, not just those who can afford to pay for it. Doing this will benefit all of us.</p> <p>North Carolinians need to work together as unified society to combat this virus and associated economic disruption. Let's not blame those who are out of work with insufficient savings to weather this "storm" of unknown duration. Let's support them so we come out stronger and more unified. North Carolina has a rainy day fund. If ever there was a time to put this fund to use it is now.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my opinion.</p>
03/31/2020 07:03 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Doctor Michael Goy	The covid-19 epidemic is in its infancy. Restrictions on mobility and social interactions will be here for a long time. We need to find viable ways to protect democracy, and specifically to enable voting. Please allocate resources to develop a carefully considered, secure mechanism for employing mail-in ballots in future elections. Thank you!
03/31/2020 07:11 PM	Education Working Group	Ms Ennis Baker	<p>Search</p> <p>Search for:</p> <p>Main Menu</p> <p>TAKE ACTION: Tell NC House COVID-19 committee to focus on supporting people, public institutions, and a strong economy</p> <p>Home</p> <p>TAKE ACTION: Tell NC House COVID-19 committee to focus on supporting people, public</p>

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			<p>institutions, and a strong economy</p> <p>NC House Speaker Richard More has established a House Select Committee to respond to COVID-19 with bipartisan representation and has created a portal to collect public comments. Read on for further background and templates in help inform your comments!</p> <p>Now more than ever, our state needs bold, public policies from the N.C. General Assembly. North Carolina has immediate needs for healthcare and public health support, to protect families from lost work and strengthen our economy. Even as the federal government is needed to provide critical support to our communities, it is essential that state legislators, starting with the House Select Committee on COVID19, advance solutions that:</p> <p>Recognize our fates are intertwined and make bold commitments to support our neighbors' health and well-being</p> <p>Focus on people first and their need to replace lost income, put food on the table and keep a roof over peoples' heads, and should exclude no person for their identity or immigration status</p> <p>Commit our collective resources to build systems that will help every person and every community recover and put our state on sounder footing for the future</p> <p>While more detailed policy proposals should be presented soon, Speaker Moore and House members need to hear from you this weekend about guiding principles and priorities. Please weigh in as soon as you can using the templates below as a guide.</p> <p>People First Message</p> <p>I am asking you to pursue a bold and sustained response to the COVID-19 that makes sure people across the state regardless of who they are, where they work or where they come from are protected in this moment.</p> <p>We need your leadership to drive state level dollars to families and people and ensure our public programs—from education to healthcare to early childhood to social services—have what is needed to respond to this moment and sustain our collective well-being in the future.</p> <p>Please move quickly to fix the state's unemployment insurance, ensure people have access to paid sick leave, and provide the supports to young children and families to put food on the table and a home in which to shelter in place. Your leadership is needed and we know that it will matter so much in this moment that you strengthen our collective institutions. We can afford to do it and cannot afford not to.</p>
03/31/2020 07:14 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ruth G Gray	<p>If you don't protect healthcare workers those who get sick will be out 3 to 4 weeks with the coronavirus. This will put the remaining number of healthcare workers in greater danger. And if the family of the healthcare workers get sick the healthcare worker maybe out even longer taking care of them. Older family members who often step-in to help will not be able to with coronavirus.</p> <p>It is in everyone's interest to protect healthcare workers.</p>
03/31/2020 07:17 PM	Economic Support Working Group	NERISSA RIVERA	<p>Message</p> <p>North Carolina's economy is only as strong as the economic security of people living on low incomes and in poverty. I urge you to make sure that people whose work and wages</p>

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			<p>are at risk are the first needs that you address in your response.</p> <p>It is only by making sure people have income or wage replacement that they can stay in their home and put food on the table, and small businesses employing people in our community—like child care centers and retailers—can be supported.</p> <p>We must act with urgency to bolster programs and policies that serve as economic shock absorbers so families and communities can weather the coming storm. This response should not pursue flawed policy agendas that would give tax breaks to big companies without accountability to people nor further enrich the already wealthy.</p> <p>We urge you to lead North Carolina in this moment with a vision for what the economy needs—a focus on what people need to be well.</p>
03/31/2020 07:37 PM	Health Care Working Group	Expand Medicaid now Claudia Stack	Thanks to GOP leadership NC has not expanded Medicaid, so we send our Medicaid dollars to other states. If the NCGA would expand Medicaid, it would cover 500K uninsured North Carolinians. This in turn will help people and our hospitals during the pandemic.
03/31/2020 07:42 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. John Cross	Please act swiftly to cover the uninsured in North Carolina. Expanding Medicaid right now will bring billions in federal funding, and make sure that people who lose jobs can still get affordable health coverage to stay healthy, and be ready to work again after the crisis is over. Thank you.
03/31/2020 08:09 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Eva Clontz	I support voting by mail, especially during this pandemic
03/31/2020 08:14 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	public michael gannon	Please clearly develop and elucidate a way for all of us to be able to vote in November without physically going to polling places. Mailed out absentee ballots or just regular ballots via mail would be most helpful. Online voting is another option to look at. Early voting at grocery stores/pharmacies is another option to consider. The Viral Pandemic looks to be with us for much longer than any of us wish. In no way should it be able to throw an insurmountable wrench into our democratic process. Do the right thing and make elections accessible to ALL. Thanks for your time and effort.
03/31/2020 08:18 PM	Health Care Working Group	Expand Medicaid Jason Weil	Medicaid in North Carolina should have been expanded years ago, but now that we are in a pandemic it is absolutely necessary to address the health of our citizens.
03/31/2020 08:28 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Beth Bargar	You will need to allowed reopening of hair care salons soon. Make them adhere to stringent restrictions and take appointments only without accompanying friends or family. This is actually an essential service. You should limit services to haircuts and dry only, not allowing time-consuming colorings, perms, nails or massages
03/31/2020 08:38 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	mr jeff dektor	<p>Please consider</p> <p>Making it easier for all NC voters to have the ability to cast a ballot by mail</p> <p>Providing counties the resources to recruit more pollworkers for November. Pollwork can be very tiring due to the long hours.</p> <p>Give counties the flexibility they need to create, and more funds to support, early voting plans.</p> <p>Also, ensure that all government meetings are accessible remotely. Transparency is important.</p>

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03/31/2020 08:40 PM	Health Care Working Group	Anna Lyn Purugganan	<p>With this Covid-19 pandemic, there is a feeling of uncertainty and I am scared. The Covid infection should be dealt as the first priority. Things to be done: HEALTH - increase testing kit production, mass testing- drive through, testing,testing, testing, identification, isolation and quarantine, increase support in hospitals and healthcare workers (PPE,gloves,masks, etc- asked private companies and public help right now. Encourage local business to make PPE, masks, etc) , proper triage - patients with symptoms, test for flu and bacterial infection, if negative test for Covid. Non-Covid patients can do telehealth consult, strict implementation of social distancing, stay at home, wear mask, limit travels, encourage research treatment and vaccine. We should be getting ready by now. Mental health support for frontline workers and childcare support too. Give PPE to police and those who responds to emergencies. Have local business produce disinfectants. Education - schools continue through online learning. Kids that need food assistance, maybe it can be delivered using school buses routes and to limit travel deliver it once a week.</p> <p>Agriculture- support and encourage farmers. Encourage public to do like hydroponics planting for food supply</p> <p>Economy - The main problem should be solve first for the economy to move. Help the small businesses. Set aside funds for unemployment claims but there should be a limit. Prayers, Prayers, Prayers that God may protect us all and hope this nightmare will be over soon.</p>
03/31/2020 08:46 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Joanne Gardner	<p>It is very important that all persons have easy access to voting. All registered Voters should be able to submit their ballot by mail if the COVID19 situation still warrants social distancing procedures. And the forecast is that the risk of COVID19 will linger for many months.</p> <p>My 71 year old sister is currently undergoing healing treatments in a long term care facility in Wisconsin. She was required to have a copy made of her ID and have someone witness her signature in order to submit an absentee ballot. She made me aware of how these requirements may impede many voters if they do not have access to a copy machine or a witness.</p> <p>It is imperative that we do not exclude voters who have the right to submit their vote in all upcoming elections. Keep the process straightforward and simple! One ballot for every eligible voter!! Thank you for considering my comments as you work towards an equitable election process.</p>
03/31/2020 08:48 PM	Education Working Group	Dr Audrey Thompson	Please help
03/31/2020 09:26 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Jason Potts	The general assembly needs to get off recess and get back to work fixing the unemployment iniquities here in nc .start with spending some od the 4 billion in the unemployment reserves to help the people in this time of need who need unemployment
03/31/2020 09:31 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Priscilla Stowe	<p>Please get our front end persons the supplies and extra man power they need „So we can get this Virus in control and please have everyone that is not a believe to sit and look at the video where they are carrying bodies to the refrigerated truck with a forklift and remind them these people died alone</p> <p>No family member was allowed to assist with the patient</p>

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			Thanks
03/31/2020 09:53 PM	Health Care Working Group	Nicole Dozier	<p>Dear House Select Committee Members, I appreciate that you are meeting to address the COVID-19 health crisis that will impact North Carolinians in so many ways. I am fortunate that I can stay at home and continue working using technology and to stay in touch with close family and friends. I have 2 children—one a college Junior whose internship has now been cancelled and is taking challenging classes online. My daughter has starting some online high school work this week. While get tired of being at home, we are grateful we can do our part to flatten the curve and to try to stay well. We are concerned though about our neighbors who cannot including my husband, an essential employee on the front lines every day. He does have health insurance. There are well over a half million Tarheels though, in the coverage gap and given over 300,000 have filed for UI benefits due to COVID-19 related job loss there will be many, many more. Medicaid is already paying for testing/treatment so we can ensure people without coverage get the care they need for them to live and thrive. It's in the public interest for us all to have a chance to be well. Expanding access to care through Medicaid requires no increase in state taxes and can be done quickly. So many workers in public facing "essential businesses" are most likely to be uninsured and in our state's coverage gap like janitors/custodians and cashiers. All of North Carolina is at risk when any of our neighbors are. Medicaid expansion would ensure our hospitals (especially struggling, rural ones) and community health centers can keep their doors open during this crisis by being compensated to provide care and having the needed staff and equipment. This is a scary time. This is the best time to ensure the people in the greatest state in the nation so they can have peace of mind and access to care without fear of financial ruin . Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts with you. Be well.</p>
03/31/2020 10:02 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Yes to mail in voting Mattias Jonsson	Please let me vote by mail from the safety of my home. There is no reason for us all to go to a polling place where we might get infected while standing in line. This will be a huge concern in elections going forward. Several states already do it, as well as whole countries. Thanks!
03/31/2020 10:06 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms Lucy Lewis	The foundation of our democracy is the vote - and fair and accessible voting. I urge you to ensure that North Carolinians can participate in this fundamental right, even as this pandemic rages - and SUPPORT MAIL-IN VOTING 2020. Thank you.
03/31/2020 10:07 PM	Health Care Working Group	Dr Denise Finck-Rothman	I am a family physician in North Carolina. Covid-19 has put many out of work and they now lack insurance coverage at a time when it is very important for them to seek medical care for themselves and to protect their family and co-workers. I encourage you to request that all beneficiaries of unemployment insurance also be granted Medicare standard but without the monthly cost, yearly co-pay and with medication coverage. I also suggest that the working poor such as those that are working so hard at Walmart or other jobs that do not provide health insurance benefits, be awarded expanded Medicaid through the state of North Carolina.
03/31/2020 10:13 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections &	Maureen Corbett	I am writing in support of a comprehensive vote-by-mail system as part of our state's COVID-19 contingency-planning around November's general election.

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
	Public Safety) Working Group		
03/31/2020 10:29 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs. Lea Ray	"Please act swiftly to cover the uninsured in North Carolina. Expanding Medicaid right now will bring billions in federal funding, and make sure that people who lose jobs can still get affordable health coverage to stay healthy, and be ready to work again after the crisis is over.??Thank you."
03/31/2020 10:53 PM	Health Care Working Group	Dr Matthew Scholer	<p>I am an emergency medicine physician currently on the "front line" of healthcare workers caring for North Carolinians infected by SARS-CoV-2 (novel coronavirus). I strongly urge you to allow vote-by-mail for the NC 2020 general election in November. This will minimize unnecessary group gathering for an event that the electorate will be highly motivated to attend in person if this is not done. Even if the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic is past, social distancing will continue to be the most effective strategy to keep it at bay.</p> <p>Matthew Scholer, MD, PhD Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine UNC Healthcare, Chapel Hill, NC</p>
03/31/2020 11:09 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs Donna Hollingsworth	I would like you to approve of vote-by-mail for the 2020 elections, especially if we are dealing with the Coronavirus COVID-19. Plus the state would continue to make voting easier and safer for the electorate.
03/31/2020 11:14 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms. Heather Minchew	<p>In response to the current COVID-19 crisis, I urge you to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make it easier for all NC voters to have the ability to cast a ballot by mail - Provide counties the resources to recruit more poll workers for November - Give counties the flexibility they need to create, and more funds to support, early voting plans that reflect the needs for the fall election -Ensure any and all government meetings that occur remotely during this time are fully open and transparent to the people of North Carolina <p>Thank you.</p>
03/31/2020 11:16 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	SUSAN COLLINS	I support the implementation of mail in ballots for the Nov 2020 election. We cannot have the covid virus interfere with our right to cast a vote in this important election
03/31/2020 11:22 PM	Health Care Working Group	CRNA, NSPM-C Michael Brown	<p>Dear NC General Assembly:</p> <p>I am requesting an immediate action to remove unnecessary practice restrictions enforced on Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) in North Carolina. Healthcare workers across the nation, and here in North Carolina, are coming together to fight COVID-19. Many are facing circumstances never witnessed before in their clinical practice. In this unprecedented time, CRNAs may be called upon for their unique skill sets, as healthcare CEOs, administrators and other decision-makers seek to optimize the workforce.</p>

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			<p>In our roles as advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), CRNAs practicing in our state can fill an important role in providing life-saving critical care management for patients impacted by the COVID-19 virus. CRNAs are qualified to make independent judgements based on our training, licensure, and certification.</p> <p>CRNAs function in various areas of the hospital, including emergency room and critical care units and can bridge the gap, providing expertise in the areas of rapid systems assessment, airway management, ventilatory support, vascular volume resuscitation, triage, emergency preparedness, and resource management to support hospitals. Additionally, intensive care providers may become consumed with multiple body system failure related to the lung pathology that is so uniquely elegant to the COVID-19 virus. As direct ordering providers we can lend expert recommendations or can even assume the tasks of ordering ventilator parameters, respiratory treatments, and weaning protocols as patients pull through.</p> <p>With the expanding pandemic occurring across the United States, several states have identified the unique skillset possessed by CRNAs and removed unnecessary restrictions which allow CRNAs to practice to the fullest degree allowable according to state scope of practice laws.</p> <p>As you may be aware, the North Carolina Board of Nursing (NCBON) is the sole regulator of CRNA practice in NC as established through the Nursing Practice Act NC G.S. 90-171 and NC Administrative Code 21 NCAC 36.0226. A licensed CRNA in North Carolina may perform nurse anesthesia activities in collaboration with a physician, dentist, podiatrist, or other lawfully qualified health care provider as noted in 21 NCAC 36 .0226. Collaboration is codified in 21 NCAC 36 .0226 as a process by which the CRNA works with one or more qualified health care providers, each contributing his or her respective area of expertise consistent with the appropriate occupational licensure laws of the state and according to the established policies, procedures, practices, and channels of communication that lend support to nurse anesthesia services and that define the roles and responsibilities of the qualified nurse anesthetist within the practice setting. There is no statutory requirement for a written collaborative agreement between the CRNA and the collaborating, qualified healthcare providers.</p> <p>Even President Trump recognizes the importance of removing unnecessary and restrictive barriers to practice with his executive order to help the U.S. healthcare system address the COVID-19 patient surge. However, although North Carolina law is clear that CRNAs do not require supervision but rather work collaboratively with other advanced providers and physicians, insurance companies including Palmetto Medicare refuse to acknowledge these facts. They also refer to the Board of Medicine when questioning CRNA scope of practice and supervision instead of the Nursing Board. Therefore, even with President Trump's removal of supervision and unnecessary practice restrictions at the federal level, certain insurance companies will continue to deny payment at the state level for coverage by CRNAs who are unsupervised as they are misinterpreting NC law. CRNAs will be limited in their capacity and unable to practice to the fullest extent possible.</p> <p>I am asking for your immediate support and assistance by issuing a statement clarifying CRNA practice. Specifically, I am requesting your support in writing to confirm what already is listed in statute: that the NC Board of Nursing is the sole entity to regulate CRNA scope of practice; that CRNAs work collaboratively with other qualified healthcare providers; and most importantly, that no supervision requirements exist for CRNAs in</p>

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			<p>North Carolina.</p> <p>I believe with your support, CRNAs can lead the charge in not only helping North Carolinians during the COVID- 19 crisis, but also in the aftermath by practicing at the top of our licensure without any barriers to practice.</p> <p>Thank you for your continued support of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists in North Carolina. Patient care is of utmost importance. We intend to continue providing safe, excellent, quality care to our citizens of North Carolina.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Michael Brown, CRNA, NSPM-C</p>
03/31/2020 11:31 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Vote by Mail Patricia Dareneau	I urge you to seriously consider vote by mail. Through no fault of our own the voters have been prohibited from attending campaign events and may also be prohibited from voting in person. The answer is vote by mail
04/01/2020 12:08 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms Patricia Fareneau	Please allow us to vote by mail. All the election preparation is on hold. This is such a critical election. Everyone needs to be able to participate
04/01/2020 12:18 AM	Health Care Working Group	Leticia Zavala	I am concerned that there is no coverage for undocumented farmworkers please think about those in the shadows
04/01/2020 04:15 AM	Health Care Working Group	Dr Ellen Kaczmarek	<p>I am asking you to pursue a bold and sustained response to the COVID-19 that makes sure people across the state regardless of who they are, where they work or where they come from are protected in this moment.</p> <p>We need your leadership to drive state level dollars to families and people and ensure our public programs—from education to healthcare to early childhood to social services—have what is needed to respond to this moment and sustain our collective well-being in the future.</p> <p>Please move quickly to fix the state's unemployment insurance, ensure people have access to paid sick leave, and provide the supports to young children and families to put food on the table and a home in which to shelter in place. Your leadership is needed and we know that it will matter so much in this moment that you strengthen our collective institutions. We can afford to do it and cannot afford not to. ALSO: The NC Legislature needs to expand Medicaid now!</p>
04/01/2020 07:01 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Kari Thatcher	<p>We need to freeze mortgage and rent payments, not merely delay evictions and foreclosures until this is over.</p> <p>We also need to expand Medicaid eligibility, raise minimum wage/tie it to cost of living, and pay all essential workers hazard pay.</p> <p>Many essential workers in service sectors are in jobs that do not offer health insurance to their part time folks. While they may be working close to 40 hours at this point, due to low wages, they're still struggling to make ends meet and still uninsured. This is unjust (and unsafe for the public when it comes to customer service jobs).</p> <p>Paid sick time needs to be available for ALL workers, and it should be usable to care for</p>

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			<p>self and any family member, not only children.</p> <p>Stop requiring state employees to get a doctor's note to use their sick time. It wastes valuable resources to send them to the doctor if they're only showing mild symptoms &/or if they are staying home for a known health condition (vs a COVID-19 symptoms).</p> <p>Raise the resource limits for SNAP, TANF, and Medicaid eligibility, and for Medicaid Special Assistance for Assisted Living/Skilled Nursing.</p> <p>Make unemployment insurance available to people using Tax ID numbers, not only SSNs.</p> <p>Thank you for taking these comments and policy suggestions seriously.</p> <p>Lives are at stake due to economic hardship, and now is the time to act.</p>
04/01/2020 07:47 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs Sheila Smith	<p>I live on Hatteras Island. I feel like what is being done to our non-resident homeowners is a crime. Their civil liberties are being taken away from them. Law Enforcement is wasting their time and energy at check points. While I feel visitors at this time is not a good idea. These people own property and pay taxes. I feel like a law suit against the county is inevitable. I am not speaking for anyone in particular, I do not know any non-resident homeowners that have been shut out of their property, I only see the county bulletins and local pages addressing this. Taxation without representation.</p>
04/01/2020 08:03 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr TD Knapp	<p>Gun stores should not be closed during this emergency. People have a right and expectation to be able to protect themselves, their families, and their property. The closing of gun stores shows the bias and political agenda of the leftist politicians.</p>
04/01/2020 08:30 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Jennifer Marshall	<p>Unemployment insurance got gobsmecked by this mess. Because I am a tipped worker and low income, I am sitting here waiting with \$23 in the bank. I spent my savings on stocking up on 3 weeks of supplies and food and prepaying bills like the rent and car insurance. Either update the current system or have servers on standby to handle the numbers. Processing calls and applications would be a great telecommute job, even if only temporarily. We can do better than this current debacle. It's the first and I'm totally broke and scared to even check the website. No news, no payment, no update, no way to make contact. I'm more scared of starving than the virus. Technology and the ability to harness it for service is something that NC should be better at so we don't have to worry about benefits while told to stay home. And we are a State that has manufacturing capabilities- we should be making masks and ppe for folks.</p>
04/01/2020 08:38 AM	Health Care Working Group	Rebeka Kephart	<p>Medicaid expansion is needed in order to help the citizens of North Carolina receive appropriate healthcare. As a care manager I see so many uninsured who have to make hard decisions that no one should ever be faced with. No one should have to choose between medication and food but it happens every single day. The sacrifices people are making to try and stay well are often shocking and heartbreaking. Whole families are being impacted by one member with a chronic illness or as result of an unexpected medical emergency. Medicaid expansion would be a true life saver for so many sick and struggling people. A large portion of our people are falling through the cracks leaving whole communities in vulnerable positions due to the number of uninsured and the resulting lack of access to health care. Medicaid expansion is an absolute must if we truly want keep North Carolinians well.</p>
04/01/2020 09:08 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Nicole Netzel	<p>It is important to me that NC continues to enforce social distancing and takes measures to address instances where this recommendation is not followed. NC needs to establish release criteria for folks in jail and prison to allow for many to be released. NC needs to</p>

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			quickly update the online unemployment application to reflect the new federal law. The NCGA should pass a budget that includes Medicaid expansion and protects our residents from medical debt and ensures access to medical resources. I work for a statewide human services non-profit and try desperately to help folks fill the gaps created or ignored by our leadership in this state.
04/01/2020 09:23 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Jin Adams Parker	<p>North Carolina's economy is only as strong as the economic security of people living on low incomes and in poverty. I urge you to make sure that people whose work and wages are at risk are the first needs that you address in your response.</p> <p>It is only by making sure people have income or wage replacement that they can stay in their home and put food on the table, and small businesses employing people in our community—like child care centers and retailers—can be supported.</p> <p>We must act with urgency to bolster programs and policies that serve as economic shock absorbers so families and communities can weather the coming storm. This response should not pursue flawed policy agendas that would give tax breaks to big companies without accountability to people nor further enrich the already wealthy.</p>
04/01/2020 09:24 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	John McGovern	Please we must have mail in voting
04/01/2020 09:57 AM	Health Care Working Group	Marsha Harris	This is very necessary to assist my clients in getting the help that they so desperately need.
04/01/2020 10:11 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Michelle Hughes	<p>Dear Speaker Moore and members of the House Select Committee on COVID-19,</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to recommend policy priorities that will support our state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the word limits on this public web portal, we will submit a more detailed version of this letter to you via email with the specifics of this proposal.</p> <p>The 76 undersigned organizations from across North Carolina deeply appreciate your service in a time of crisis, and your proactive response by convening the House Select Committee on COVID-19. Together we urge you to act swiftly to enact policies that will ensure the well-being of our state's children and their families, and help us all to recover as quickly as possible once the crisis is over.</p> <p>While our state has certainly experienced challenging times before, we have never been asked to rise to a challenge of this magnitude. We are in a time of unprecedented danger, to our health and economy, and we ask that your legislative actions be proportional to the dire challenge before us.</p> <p>We respectfully submit the following priorities for children and families, and urge you to enact them as quickly as possible:</p>

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			<p>1. Enact a \$125 million Child Care Emergency Economic Support Package, put forth by the NC Early Education Coalition, to assure the availability of emergency child care and prevent the collapse of North Carolina's early education system.</p> <p>2. Ensure that children and families are not hungry by appropriating emergency funding, and waiving restrictions for food relief programs during this public health crisis.</p> <p>3. Enhance North Carolina's technology infrastructure to enroll and provide relief services virtually and efficiently. This includes allocating funding for NCDHHS to strengthen the online application process for public benefit programs, and eliminating state restrictions on the ability of local governments to invest in broadband infrastructure.</p> <p>4. Protect the safety of children and youth involved in the foster care system.</p> <p>5. Ensure that the 110,000 NC children on NC Health Choice get uninterrupted health coverage during this crisis, and cut red tape by merging NC Health Choice with Medicaid.</p> <p>Finally and critically, we join the NC Health Care Association, Care4Carolina, and hundreds of health systems and business leaders across the state in calling on the NC General Assembly to immediately:</p> <p>6. Do everything in your power to cover North Carolina's uninsured, including accepting the federal funds to expand the NC Medicaid program.</p> <p>COVID-19 is unlike any health crisis our state and country has experienced before. Over a million people in North Carolina are facing a pandemic with no health insurance whatsoever. The financial impacts may be devastating for families, and for our hospitals and health systems. Your action would immediately unlock \$3 billion in federal funding to North Carolina's health systems to fight COVID-19 and promote economic recovery.</p> <p>Thank you for your work, and for the opportunity to share these recommendations with you. We stand ready to assist you with further information and support regarding all of the areas discussed above.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Michelle Hughes, Executive Director NC Child Raleigh, NC</p> <p>A Better Chance A Better Community (ABC2) Chester B. Williams Enfield, NC</p> <p>A Safe Place Child Enrichment Center Inc Kimberly Shaw Raleigh, NC</p>

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
		Advocates for Medically Fragile Kids NC Elaine Nell Pfafftown, NC	
		Ahoskie Pediatrics Beverly Edwards, MD Ahoskie, NC	
		American Association of University Women-North Carolina Dr. Margie Maddox Raleigh, NC and Greensboro, NC	
		American Association of University Women, Orange-Durham Branch Michele Hoyman, Chapel Hill, NC	
		Anson County Partnership for Children Caroline M. Goins Wadesboro, NC	
		Cambridge Academy Suzanne H Studdard Reidsville, NC	
		Child Care Services Association Marsha Basloe Chapel Hill, NC	
		Child First Diane Britz Wilmington, NC	
		Children First/Communities in Schools of Buncombe County Greg Borom Asheville, NC	
		The Children's Alliance of Mecklenburg County Jenny Harbin Charlotte, NC	
		Children's Center of Northwest NC Robin Testerman Dobson, NC	
		Children's Collaborative of Buncombe County Sarah Vial	

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
		Asheville, NC	
		Children's Home Society of NC Jamaica Pfister Statewide	
		Church Women United—Wake/Raleigh Norma Marti Raleigh, NC	
		Communities Supporting Schools of Wayne County Selena Jordan Bennett Goldsboro, NC	
		Cone Health Foundation Susan Shumaker, President Greensboro, NC	
		Council for Children's Rights Heather Johnson Charlotte, NC	
		Creative Play Preschool Shanita Beard Charlotte, NC	
		Culture and Language Childcare Dominique Farley Durham, NC	
		Elinvar Patti Gillenwater Raleigh, NC	
		Equality North Carolina Ames Simmons Raleigh, NC	
		Evolve Early Learning Corrie Price Asheville, NC	
		First United Methodist Child Development Center Janice Price Charlotte, NC	
		Foster Village Charlotte	

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
		Sloan Crawford Charlotte, NC	
		The Goddard School Brier Creek Fathema Matcheswala Raleigh, NC	
		The Goddard School Chapel Hill Ashish Tripathi Chapel Hill, NC	
		The Goddard School Mehul Desai Durham, NC	
		The Goddard School Desai Raleigh, NC	
		Health Care Justice NC Jessica Schorr Saxe Charlotte, NC	
		Interfaith Initiative for Social Justice Ron Katz Asheville, NC	
		John Rex Endowment Kellan Moore, President & CEO Raleigh, NC	
		Justice Kids Academy Malaysia Prince Charlotte, NC	
		KidsNeed2Parents Sheila Peltzer Charlotte, NC	
		Learning Together Kathy Peterson Raleigh, NC	
		LIFESPAN Inc Lynn Crabtree Burlington and Statesville, NC	

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
		Lisa's Kiddiegarten Lisa Crite Brevard, NC	
		Little Believers Academy Cassandra Brooks Clayton, NC	
		Maggie's Outreach Community Economic Development Center Ophelia Ray Raeford, NC	
		MomsRising Beth Messersmith Durham, NC	
		Mountain Community Health Partnership Tim Evans Burnsville, NC	
		National Association of Social Workers, North Carolina Valerie Arendt Raleigh, NC	
		National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health Dr. Lynda Gargan Rockville, MD	
		National Prevention Science Coalition to Improve Lives Diana Fishbein Chapel Hill, NC	
		NC Association of Community Development Corporations Susan Perry Cole Rocky Mount, NC	
		NC Early Education Coalition Michele Rivest Chapel Hill, NC	
		NC Justice Center Adam Svolto Raleigh, NC	
		NC Pediatric Society Elizabeth Hudgins Raleigh, NC	

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
		NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence Sherry Honeycutt Everett Durham, NC	
		North Carolina PTA Harold Dixon Raleigh, North Carolina	
		New Beginnings Previs Foster Warrenton, NC	
		New Hanover County NAACP Deborah Dicks Maxwell Wilmington, NC	
		New Hanover County Resiliency Task Force Mebane Boyd Wilmington, NC	
		Noah's Ark Children's Center at Masonboro Baptist Tracy Brewer Wilmington, NC	
		North Carolina Alliance for Health Morgan Wittman Gramann Durham, NC	
		North Carolina Council of Churches Jennifer Copeland Raleigh, NC	
		NC National Organization for Women Gailya Paliga Raleigh, NC	
		The Parenting PATH Elizabeth M. Miller Winston-Salem, NC	
		Partners in Development Kathleen Putnam Chapel Hill, NC	
		Prevent Child Abuse NC Melea Rose-Waters	

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
		Raleigh, NC	
		Randolph County Partnership for Children Lisa Hayworth Asheboro, NC	
		Reimage Child Development Center Jennifer Bowers Winterville, NC	
		Reinvestment Partners Neal Curran Durham, NC	
		SAFEchild Cristin DeRonja Raleigh, NC	
		Toxic Free NC Alexis Luckey Durham, NC	
		Track Out Kidz LLC Alice Nelson Raleigh, NC	
		Trusted Parents Nikia Bye Charlotte, NC	
		Upper Room Christian Preschool Crystal Amanchukwu Raleigh, NC	
		United Voices for Education Ceretha Sherrill Charlotte, NC	
		Verner Center for Early Learning Marcia Whitney Asheville	
		Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Triangle Branch Miriam Thompson Chapel Hill and Carrboro, NC	
		Young Explorers Family Childcare Home	

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			Nakita Douglas Wendell, NC
04/01/2020 10:14 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ben Fehsenfeld	Please move forward with Medicaid expansion now. This would help save so many lives during the COVID-19 pandemic and backstop our healthcare system in a critical moment.
04/01/2020 10:14 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mr. Adam Versenyi	I urge all state lawmakers to immediately expand Medicaid and allow over 500,000 North Carolinians to get the health care they need during this Covid-19 pandemic.
04/01/2020 10:17 AM	Health Care Working Group	Leslie Isakoff	Please expand Medicaid. Lives of your constituents are at risk. This is the most important work you will do in your lifetime. Be on the right side of history.
04/01/2020 10:20 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs. Abby Emanuelson	<p>April 1, 2020</p> <p>Dear Speaker Moore and Members of the House Select Committee on COVID-19:</p> <p>The National Multiple Sclerosis Society (Society) wants to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for the commitment you have shown to protecting North Carolinians through your service on the House Select Committee on COVID-19.</p> <p>Multiple sclerosis is an unpredictable, often disabling disease of the central nervous system. There is currently no cure for MS. Symptoms vary from person to person and range from numbness and tingling, to mobility challenges, blindness and paralysis. An estimated 1 million people live with MS in the United States.</p> <p>MS is an expensive disease that lasts a lifetime. Direct medical expenses for people with MS may be 5 times greater than people without MS. Adhering to a treatment plan -- including prescribed disease-modifying medication -- is the best possible strategy to manage MS. Lack of access to continual health care may result in disease progression and loss of function.</p> <p>As you deliberate, the Society strongly urges you to consider the following actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close the coverage gap. Close the health insurance coverage gap by expanding access to Medicaid would help us overcome three of the key obstacles we face: slowing the spread of the virus, supporting our healthcare systems, and lessening the economic hardship many North Carolina families will now face. • Maximize the ability to access telemedicine. Telemedicine has the potential to offer individuals and families access to health care services from the safety of their own home. The state should expand access to and availability of, telemedicine services during the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure that patients with pre-existing conditions can easily access health care expertise while simultaneously practicing safe social distancing—allowing patients to avoid being exposed to COVID-19 in provider waiting rooms, exam rooms, and during associated travel. North Carolina should ensure that telemedicine services are covered at no higher cost-sharing than in-person visits, and that bureaucratic hurdles do not prevent health care providers from participating. • Ensure access to essential medications and medical products. Health plan restrictions (refill limits, prior authorization, step therapy protocols) should be suspended at this time. It is critically important that patients be able to access life-sustaining medications and products without putting themselves at risk with frequent trips to the pharmacy. Plans

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			<p>must allow patients to follow CDC recommendation to secure an appropriate amount of backup supplies of essential medications and medical products.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect patients from surprise medical bills. Prohibit surprise bills from out-of-network providers for treatment for COVID-19. This financial protection should include all providers, settings, and insurance types to ensure that everyone who needs testing and treatment is able to receive timely and affordable care. Fear of surprise bills should not keep patients and consumers away from care during this critical time. <p>The Society urges you to strongly consider these solutions, as a part of the overall state responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact me.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Abby Emanuelson AVP, Advocacy and Activist Engagement National Multiple Sclerosis Society Abby.emanuelson@nmss.org 919-389-3553</p>
04/01/2020 10:20 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. Johnny Rice	Please expand
04/01/2020 10:20 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mr Michael Eisenberg	<p>Please immediately expand Medicaid to all uninsured in NC, this will make the state safer!</p> <p>Please do the right thing.</p>
04/01/2020 10:21 AM	Education Working Group	Dr. Margie Maddox	Please consider expanding the Medicaid option in the state of North Carolina. In this time of emergency, we can not continue to ignore the people in our state who are dying because of their inability to access health care. Please, it is time to stand up and do something! We elected you to help all of us to have a higher quality of life, not to ignore the "least among us"!
04/01/2020 10:22 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs. Deborah Petermann	Please immediately expand Medicaid and allow over 500,000 North Carolinians to get health coverage and access care during this pandemic.
04/01/2020 10:23 AM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Teme Levbarg	It is more vital than ever, as we try to meet and manage the challenge of COVID 19, that we expand Medicaid. Please move forward with this for all the citizens in North Carolina.
04/01/2020 10:24 AM	Health Care Working Group	Lisa Burke	This is the time to help keep EVERYONE as healthy as possible. Please expand Medicaid (and food help, while we're at it) . The expense NOW will keep more people healthy, help the most vulnerable, and our state will reap the benefits in the long term. Expanding Medicaid is a good investment. Besides that, it is the right thing to do.
04/01/2020 10:24 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Dian Gray	Make Medicaid available to all North Carolinians now - please. Save us!!
04/01/2020 10:24 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Evelyn Durmaz	Please expand Medicaid immediately so that more North Carolinians will be able to get

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
	Group		the health care they need during the ongoing pandemic and afterward.
04/01/2020 10:27 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Erica Rothman	Democracy requires available and safe voting opportunities. I urge you to consider a vote by mail option for November elections. It works in many states and it's time we consider it.
04/01/2020 10:27 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mr & Mrs Scott & Jacalyn Engler	Many low wage service workers are still serving the public. We should understand how these workers are important to our society. Many of them do not have access to affordable health care. This is a disgrace and a tragedy. Ex[and Medicare now.
04/01/2020 10:28 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Stef Mendell	Expand Medicare now!
04/01/2020 10:28 AM	Health Care Working Group	Reverend Eileen Sullivan	I urge you to immediately expand Medicaid and allow over 500,000 North Carolinians to get health coverage and access care they need during this pandemic. Due to unemployment thanks to the lockdown, NO ONE in my household of 7 members has healthcare insurance right now.
04/01/2020 10:28 AM	Health Care Working Group	Linda Graney	With the current covid 19 crisis, now is the time to take action on expanding Medicaid in NC. Many families in my community are stretching their dollars as best they can, expanding Medicaid would take a burden off those families for their health care and mental health care needs. Thank you.
04/01/2020 10:29 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mr. and Mrs. Martin Dyckman	It was cruel and hyperpartisan for the Geneal Assembly to refuse to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and given the circumstances of the current national health emergency it is beyond essential that you do so now.
04/01/2020 10:29 AM	Health Care Working Group	Rev. Julia Murray	Please expand Medicaid to ensure the health for all of North Carolina.
04/01/2020 10:30 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mr. Gary Ander	Now is the time to move ahead with Medicaid Expansion and support those without insurance and the medical providers that will be taking care of them in this crisis. Your support of expansion now will provide the economic support for these health care systems, especially in rural areas, which are so greatly needed.
04/01/2020 10:31 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Jean Cary	It is essential that NC enact expanded Medicaid coverage to provide adequate funding for our rural hospitals during this pandemic. Our low income citizens who are now out of work need medical care during this pandemic and our hospitals and doctors need to be paid during this pandemic.
04/01/2020 10:34 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. and Mrs. Martin Dyckman	I am a poll worker (Party judge) in Buncombe County and I will be 83 by the next voting day. You need to do everything possible to maximize voting by mail in order to minimize the numbers of people who vote in person. The standards set out in federal legislation proposed by Sens. Wyden and Klobuchar are a good model for North Carolina to follow, and you need to provide supplemental funding so that the election can be carried out as safely as possible. We can't let democracy be the victim of the virus, but that will happen if people are afraid to vote.
04/01/2020 10:35 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Janice Freedman	This is the time to immediately expand Medicaid And quickly enroll eligible people. Everyone deserves health insurance. And these days everybody needs it. It will not cost North Carolina nearly as much as having uninsured residents.

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
04/01/2020 10:35 AM	Health Care Working Group	Wanda Setzer	It's vitally important at this time (and all the time) that people have access to health care. We need to take advantage of the Medicaid expansion so that people unable to get insurance otherwise can be covered. Having untreated COVID-19 rampant in the community will only make things worse for everybody. Please show compassion and join the majority of other states allowing the expansion of Medicaid.
04/01/2020 10:36 AM	Health Care Working Group	John Clark	Now more than ever, our state needs to expand Medicaid to cover 500 million already vulnerable working families. The COVID19 pandemic will do even more damage. The expansion will not only aid individuals but greatly assist our rural hospitals. There has been sincere concern about the disparity of resources between rural and urban regions. Expanding Medicaid will contribute to the narrowing of that divide while saving lives.
04/01/2020 10:38 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mary Hillemeier	Immediately expand Medicaid and allow over 500,000 North Carolinians to get health coverage and access care during this pandemic!
04/01/2020 10:40 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mr. Jim Donnelly	Please act immediately to expand Medicaid coverage for North Carolina -- too many of our fellow citizens are suffering needlessly. Please act now! Thank you.
04/01/2020 10:44 AM	Education Working Group	Ms. Rebecca Reid	North Carolina must accept Medicaid expansion. This is long overdue and the current crisis emphasizes the importance of doing this NOW/ Lives could have been saved if we had had the expansion years ago. There is no more time to waste on petty political arguments.
04/01/2020 10:45 AM	Health Care Working Group	Andrea Daye	Expand now!
04/01/2020 10:47 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs Evelyn Reed	Medicaid expansion is essential at this time. It is the only responsible thing to do.
04/01/2020 10:48 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms Ruby Coughenour	All meetings that are held remotely need to be open and transparent. County boards of elections need to have the flexibility to create appropriate early voting times and locations. There needs to be funding for sufficient absentee ballots. It is critical that we are prepared for this important election.
04/01/2020 10:55 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Kathy Parham	Please, protect the health of everyone. Please immediately expand Medicaid and allow over 500,000 North Carolinians to get health coverage and access care during this pandemic. This will not only save these low-income people but will also protect hospitals which will be flooded with unpaid medical bills.
04/01/2020 10:55 AM	Health Care Working Group	Roberta Lane	This is not a new request, however it is now an even more urgent one. Lawmakers have never been able to adequately defend the decision to block preventing acceptance of federal dollars to expand Medicaid. It cost us precious lives. Now, with fresh understanding of how desperately we need health insurance for everyone of our fellow North Carolinians, you must act. Your first duty as an elected official is to protect us. We (you) are not safe when any one of us goes without care for a potentially lethal infectious disease. You are not living up to your responsibilities when you knowingly keep us from having what we need to access care. Please, please please. Do the right thing. Be rather than to seem.
04/01/2020 10:55 AM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Dennis Boos	Please immediately expand Medicaid so that we can help many of the people in North Carolina without health insurance.
04/01/2020 10:56 AM	Health Care Working	Dr. JAMES CARROLL	As a family physician working at a Federally Qualified Health Center, I see patients every

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
	Group		<p>day who suffer needlessly because they have no way to pay for services. We do see uninsured patients at a great discount, as part of our mission, but if they need a colonoscopy or an orthopedic procedure and have no insurance, we can't do that. Several of my patients have suffered in this way for many years, and some have died, because of this.</p> <p>In addition, the failure of North Carolina to expand Medicaid has hurt our small rural hospital as well as hospital systems across the state who struggle to balance their budgets and still maintain services. In the last 5 years our hospital has lost its labor and delivery unit, and we are only able to offer elective outpatient surgery, instead of 24-hour surgical and anesthesia coverage that we have had since the hospital was founded over 50 years ago! So by refusing to cover our most needy patients, North Carolina has hurt ALL of our citizens who now can't get what they need locally. Our hospital administrators and providers alike recognize that the huge funding gap created by Medicaid nonexpansion is harming us. It has set our state back from being a national leader to the bottom half in care access, a fundamental requirement to reduce health disparities and save overall health care costs. It is time to make North Carolina's health system solvent and thriving, which will never happen without the kind of access provided by Medicaid expansion.</p>
04/01/2020 10:57 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Theresa Joan Rosenberg	Please make Medicaid expansion a priority for State expenditure. The federal match makes this a "bargain" and NC will gain in improved health for thousands - a healthier workforce, fewer ill workers, healthier students, teachers and aides in every profession,
04/01/2020 11:00 AM	Health Care Working Group	Gloria Bagwell	This public health emergency is a stark reminder that many North Carolinians do not have health insurance and the most vulnerable need to have access to health care. Medicaid expansion needs to happen immediately. Shame on our state legislature for not passing this before we are in a pandemic crisis.
04/01/2020 11:02 AM	Health Care Working Group	Rev. Dr. Willie Ramey	Please expand Medicaid immediately. 500,000 people in North Carolina will benefit from the expansion today.
04/01/2020 11:05 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs Claudia Thuring	I urge you to expand Medicaid now. Health insurance should not be a privilege.
04/01/2020 11:06 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs. Gail Bromley	We all as North Carolinians, are facing a very tough time with COVID-19 and it is just a matter of time before all of us are either directly affected or know someone we care about, dealing with the disease. The most vulnerable are often those without health insurance. Given the option to expand Medicaid has never been more important or urgent. Please General Assembly leadership, allow for this to be discussed and happen. For years, our federal dollars have gone elsewhere and not to this for North Carolina. Enough! This should not be a partisan issue. Thank you.
04/01/2020 11:12 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Dr. and Mrs. Grant Steen	We need a vote-by-mail option. People may be afraid to come out and vote next November, but voting is more essential than ever. Voter fraud not a legitimate concern; there have been almost no convictions for this crime, which was alleged to be rampant, even though the Justice Department tried very hard to make it seem real. The concern with voter fraud is really just a concern with suppressing the vote of minorities.
04/01/2020 11:14 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mr Joshua Kricker	I am asking that you take the step that a number of other states have taken (including those with "conservative " majority legislatures, and expand Medicaid. Especially in the

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			midst of this national health crisis it is to everyone's benefit that anyone who needs medical treatment should be able to receive it at low or no cost. The costs in a health crisis to those who don't need Medicaid far outweigh the financial cost (which will be reduced by the way since uninsured people won't need to use emergency rooms) that will be incurred. Expanding Medicaid is a "win win" for all of us.
04/01/2020 11:14 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Paula Wolf	Expand Medicaid.
04/01/2020 11:14 AM	Health Care Working Group	Jerome Hay	The COVID-19 health crisis has made it more apparent why we need more comprehensive health care coverage for North Carolinians. I would strongly encourage that you include Medicaid expansion as a part of our state's response to this crisis. It will help make federal dollars available to us to help keep our citizens healthy. And will provide important resources for our hospitals and healthcare systems to remain strong and whole.
			Thank you for consideration of this important action.
04/01/2020 11:14 AM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. and Mrs. Grant Steen	We need to expand Medicare. People are dying out of hospital with coronavirus, because they're afraid of the medical bills they might incur. By doing so, they sicken others and make this pandemic worse. The government is supposed to care for its citizens, not watch them die.
04/01/2020 11:17 AM	Health Care Working Group	mr will webb	For the people out of work with no way to pay for medical bills, not giving them medicaid when they get sick with Coronavirus would make Louis XVI blush.
04/01/2020 11:18 AM	Education Working Group	Nique Williams	Expand Medicaid
04/01/2020 11:20 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Linda Smathers	We are in the midst of a global pandemic and North Carolina MUST EXPAND Medicaid to help the 500,000 vulnerable citizens during this emergency. PLEASE TAKE ACTION immediately.
04/01/2020 11:22 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mr. Paul Giannone	I retired from CDC as the Deputy Director of the Division of Global Disease Detection and Emergency Response. In my time at CDC I helped write the pandemic flu plans for Laos, Cambodia,Vietnam and Thailand. I also helped develop (equipment, training and response manuals) for Emergency Operations Centers. I know what I am talking about and the only way to be fair and safe for our voters we must develop a "vote by mail" system. You could also use the Absentee Ballot mechanisms to allow people to vote.
04/01/2020 11:29 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Sandy Irving	Expand medicaid
04/01/2020 11:29 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Dr Charles Reeve	Voting by mail is a must in a pandemic, and desirable at any time. Voting should be encouraged and made as convenient as possible, Arbitrary restrictions of the vote, often based on false claims about voter fraud, are reprehensible and undemocratic. No decent person, or competent politician, should favor them.
04/01/2020 11:30 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Barbara Clare Barbara Clare	In response to the challenges presented by COVID-19, I am in full support of enlisting a comprehensive vote-by-mail system in North Carolina. I support the NC Board of Elections Recommendations to Address Election-Related Issues Affected by COVID-19.

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
04/01/2020 11:31 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ryan Gabriel Inton	Health care needs to be guaranteed for all. If that means expanding Medicaid, or changing legislation to make sure all are cared for, then please work to do so. Lives are on the line.
04/01/2020 11:32 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Josephine Corro	Review and pass the People's Platform for Social and Economic Justice https://survivalandbeyond.info/platform/
04/01/2020 11:32 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mr. William Austin	It is so distressing that we have many NC residents who are not covered by any type of health insurance but who will contract COVID-19. and some of those so infected will delay treatment because of their lack of health insurance and try to survive among the rest of us, and thus spread the disease. It is time to expand Medicaid to those people for their and our own sakes.
04/01/2020 11:33 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms. Claire McLendon	I am firmly in favor of a comprehensive vote-by-mail system. I feel that it's the best way to ensure the continuity of elections while protecting vulnerable people, such as senior citizens.
04/01/2020 11:36 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mr. Leslie Long	Having been a volunteer Navigator helping individuals to understand the ACA and in many cases helping them to sign up for insurance, or, in some cases, informing them that they do not meet the required income level and at the same time will not qualify for Medicaid, I have seen the joy and relief for those who can get health insurance and the disappointment and fear of those who cannot get any type of help. I urge you to expand Medicaid to enable those who desperately need health insurance but do not qualify for it under NC's current laws. Many studies have shown such an expansion would make economic sense for the individuals, for small and rural medical providers, and for hospitals. Such an expansion would go a long way to enable those who need health insurance to get it just as those of us who are now fortunate enough can. Thank you very much.
04/01/2020 11:41 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. Edward Steffes	I write in support of voting by mail for the November election. I am 74 years old and have always voted in presidential elections. I am concerned that I may not be able to vote without putting myself at risk for what could be a fatal illness. Voting by mail has worked in other states, and could be an important means of protecting the right of citizens to vote. Thank you.
04/01/2020 11:42 AM	Health Care Working Group	Lucy Britt	I am writing to urge the Committee to immediately expand Medicaid access. North Carolinians who are just above the poverty line and in the middle class need access to quality health insurance and healthcare now more than ever.
04/01/2020 11:45 AM	Health Care Working Group	Expanding medicaid Margaret Gregor	I believe that Medicaid should be extended to cover those without health insurance during the COVID-19 crisis, thus encouraging those who need health care to obtain it in a timely manner
04/01/2020 11:48 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Terry Landers	It is time to do the right thing for all citizens of NC -- PLEASE expand medicaid so that ALL citizens have access to proper medical care, especially during this time of crisis!!
04/01/2020 11:48 AM	Health Care Working Group	Prof. John Boger	Please act immediately to extend Medicaid coverage to the 500,000+ North Carolinians who would be eligible to receive its benefits -- with over 90% of the costs covered by the federal government, not the State of North Carolina. Refusing to accept this gift of health care protection for our citizens has always been shortsighted. As we battle the covid-19 pandemic, it is a deadly policy mistake. Please act at once.

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
04/01/2020 11:50 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Tim Struttman	Please begin the process now to make vote by mail a reality at the November election.
04/01/2020 11:51 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ann Brady	Please immediately expand Medicaid and allow over 500,000 North Carolinians to get health coverage and access care during this pandemic.
04/01/2020 11:53 AM	Health Care Working Group	Lindsay Saunders	Now is the time to immediately expand Medicaid and allow over 500,000 North Carolinians to get health coverage and access care during this pandemic. Please convene and expand Medicaid to ensure that more North Carolinians do not fall through the cracks during this economic, financial, and public health crisis.
04/01/2020 11:53 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Queen Degraphenreid	Encourage our North Carolina legislators to move forward on passing the Medicaid Expansion program to 500,000 citizens of North Carolina. It appears to me that this is a necessary action to help further control COVID-19 to our medical fragile and many low-income, to include our working poor, citizens of our state.
04/01/2020 11:55 AM	Health Care Working Group	Reverend Elizabeth Kearney	Please, please - this is the time to expand Medicaid and provide medical care for ALL North Carolinians, - Yours, Elizabeth Kearney
04/01/2020 11:56 AM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Larry King	Please expand Medicaid.
04/01/2020 11:56 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr Jason Arrol	I'd like to share my support for mail-in voting in NC. Specifically, allowing people to verify their own ballot with one witness, providing pre-paid return envelopes, and counting all ballots received by election day. Every effort must be made to lower barriers and allow everyone to vote from home.
04/01/2020 12:02 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Vote by mail Pam Bailey	In order to have a representative and fair election, it is critical to have methods for allowing each citizen to vote without having to go enter a building to do so. We must allow voting by mail, computer, or drive-through. We have long provided absentee ballots for citizens. Extending this right to all citizens is in keeping with our constitutional promises. As a country we have acted to open opportunities for everyone regardless of race, creed, ability, sexual orientation. It is the responsibility of our government to do whatever is needed to allow citizens to exercise their rights.
04/01/2020 12:03 PM	Education Working Group	Mr Keith Hayes	Please continue the stay at home orders in our state. I want to make sure the virus infection rates have stabilized or decreased before going back to normal.
04/01/2020 12:04 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Mary C. Williams	Please expand Medicaid now!
04/01/2020 12:05 PM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Barbara Clawson	If there was ever a time to expand Medicaid, it is now. The 500,000 who would benefit from this action desperately need this access to health care now.
04/01/2020 12:08 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working	Mr. Abraham Palmer	1) I support vote by mail or at least planning for it as an option. 2) The federal government has not proven so far that they are going to properly manage procuring medical and other critical supplies. I think the state needs to be ready to find, procure, and distribute these to where they are needed.

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
	Group		3) This is a group effort so citizens should be asked to do more whenever it will help. 4) We need to stand up and staff better symptom monitoring and contact tracing for the long haul after we get through the initial peak.
04/01/2020 12:09 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Tanya Jisa	I strongly support a comprehensive vote-by-mail system as part of our state's COVID-19 contingency-planning around November's general election.
04/01/2020 12:11 PM	Health Care Working Group	Dr Rachael Ragin	Please vote to cover all people. This is about saving lives. Please.
04/01/2020 12:11 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Rev. THOMAS LINK	<p>The State Board of Elections must swiftly issue guidance and enact significant changes in election administration to ensure accessible, safe, and secure elections.</p> <p>Institute digital or telephonic participation for County Board of Elections activities.</p> <p>Institute significant changes regarding the provision and design of absentee ballots in order to expand access and provide the opportunity for all voters to vote by absentee ballot.</p> <p>Develop contingency plans for moving to an all-mail election and protocols for when such a measure should be taken.</p> <p>Support intensive poll worker recruitment in order to ensure that the upcoming elections are fully staffed.</p> <p>If in-person voting is to remain available, polling locations must be moved out of buildings that serve populations at high risk for contracting the coronavirus, such as retirement facilities.</p> <p>Monitor and ensure adequate sanitation at all polling locations across the state.</p> <p>Fast track the transition to current online DMV registration in light of challenges facing in-person voter registration.</p> <p>Ensure adequate Curbside Voting as a low contact/no contact option. The State Board of Elections must utilize its powers to provide guidance to counties and advocate for implementation of the aforementioned recommendations.</p> <p>Request funding through the NC General Assembly.</p> <p>Request and utilize any available federal funds.</p>
04/01/2020 12:15 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. Frank Dain	I strongly support extension and adaptation of our current vote-by-mail mechanisms to allow the entire NC electorate to comprehensively vote by mail in the November General Election. Anything less could be either a public health disaster, or an electoral disaster, or both!
04/01/2020 12:16 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Dr Mary Olney	I strongly support NC taking action now to ensure voter access in Nov 2020 by comprehensive vote-by-MAIL.
04/01/2020 12:18 PM	Health Care Working Group	Hyun Namkoong	As a policy advocate of the Health Advocacy Project for the NC Justice Center, I am writing to urge this committee to immediately consider the expansion of Medicaid for our state. Last night, the Trump Administration announced the U.S. should expect a minimum

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			of 100,000 deaths from COVID-19 even when practicing strict social distancing guidelines. We must take the health and economic impacts from C-19 seriously. During this critical time, we need House and Senate leadership to come together and find a solution to not only expand Medicaid and close the coverage gap for the health of everyone, but to ensure we are adequately prepared for when NC hits our peak number of cases and hospitalizations. People in the coverage gap are at a heightened risk for infection because they work in businesses that are considered "essential" to our state. They are our grocery stores cashiers, gas station attendants and childcare workers. We must make sure that the people who take care of us are also taken care of. They must be able to access healthcare services and be protected from medical debt. Whenever there is anyone who is uninsured, the health of everyone is at risk. We are connected and in this together. More than ever, the lives of everyday North Carolinians are in your hands.
04/01/2020 12:18 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Sue Sweezy	I am in favor of vote by mail and most of the considerations listed including but not limited to, funding for postage, mobilizing students, Election Day holiday, and efforts to alleviate senior poll workers. I have regularly voted early and only in last election found parking at site a problem but crowds, not so much. I would embrace vote by mail.
04/01/2020 12:21 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms Janis Ramquist	Please implement the secure vote by mail system that has been successfully used in Oregon for 20 years. Mail every registered voter a ballot with a return envelope that the voter signs across the envelope seal. The signature can be compared to the signature on record to verify eligibility to vote. The envelope can be either mailed or placed in a vote drop box. Paper ballots are the most secure, lower cost and encourages social distancing. Rather than multiple precinct voting establish early voting sites through Election Day for voting in person. The system makes it difficult for someone else to fill out ballots and hacking.
04/01/2020 12:24 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. Robert Sielken	I support the vote-by-mail idea. My family members in other states where it is the default voting process love it, and I think we would too.
04/01/2020 12:25 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Dr. San Keller	I support a comprehensive strategy to enable NC citizens to vote by mail in next fall's elections. It is very likely that we will need to shelter in place next fall to inhibit the spread of COVID-19. Thus, we must be prepared to support a method of voting that can be done from home.
04/01/2020 12:33 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Lindsay Smith	We are as healthy as our sickest individuals.
04/01/2020 12:36 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Elaine Stewart	I support a comprehensive vote by mail system
04/01/2020 12:38 PM	Health Care Working Group	Lisa Drummond	Please allow for Medicaid expansion to help all of our fellow Americans who are uninsured going thru this crisis receive care. It does not cost us more tax dollars to make sure our

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			health care centers will remain open by passing this expansion.
04/01/2020 12:39 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Katelyn Ehle	Mail-in voting is an important way for individuals who are unable to leave their home (or for those whom voting in-person is a burden) to participate in the electoral process! Please consider enacting mail-in voting in North Carolina!
04/01/2020 12:46 PM	Health Care Working Group	Dr Janet Montgomery	Expand Medicaid now!
04/01/2020 12:49 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Emily Combs	I support comprehensive vote by mail as the best way to carry on elections while dealing with the public health crisis. Thank you.
04/01/2020 12:56 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms Aiden Carson	Absentee ballots will be so much more important now as many people are avoiding social contact. Please ease up on the regulations and make it easier for the old and infirm to cast their ballots!
04/01/2020 12:56 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms. Kathy Underhill	I am very much in favor of allowing voting by mail. Given the current circumstances which will go on for a good while, we must be prepared to enable and support heavy voter turnout in a safe manner. Thank you!
04/01/2020 12:59 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Betty Lawrence	I believe it is vital to expand medicaid NOW. Folks will suffer and die unnecessarily if we do not.
04/01/2020 01:10 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs Connie Laskey	Please: Make it easier for all NC voters to have the ability to cast a ballot by mail. Provide counties the resources to recruit more pollworkers for November. Give counties the flexibility they need to create, and more funds to support, early voting plans that reflect the needs for the fall election. Ensure any and all government meetings that occur remotely during this time are fully open and transparent to the people of North Carolina.
04/01/2020 01:10 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms	Expand Medicaid NOW! Early release non-violent offenders to relieve prison over-crowding (& enact Bail Reform) Order an end to ICE raids Enact a state-wide living wage Protect farm workers
04/01/2020 01:14 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Barbara DANTONIO	We need to pass Expanded Medicaid now. Thank you.
04/01/2020 01:15 PM	Economic Support Working Group	David Huskins	On behalf of the state's hospitality industry, there needs to be forbearance for the industry on the upcoming ABC Permit renewals due no later than April 30. Proposed: allow current ABC Permittees to keep their permits active for an extended period of time after April 30, with deferred payment of renewal fees.

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
04/01/2020 01:18 PM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Andrea Vizoso	<p>I am urging The NC General Assembly to immediately expand Medicaid and allow 500,000 North Carolinians to get health coverage and to access health care. We can use the rainy day fund to bring relief to those who are being most impacted by this crisis. This will not only provide care for the needy, protect innocent children and youth whose families are not able to provide safety and health care, but it will also greatly protect the safety and security of our state and its economy. Doctors, hospitals, nurses and the entire health care system of our state will greatly benefit.</p> <p>Thanks for your attention to this matter.</p>
04/01/2020 01:19 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Deborah Stroman	<p>Hi. I am writing to ask for your support of a comprehensive vote-by-mail system as part of our state's COVID-19 contingency-planning. Our ability to have free and fair elections is the foundation of our republic. Please work towards this most viable way to ensure that all voters are able to express their governance preferences. Thank you.</p>
04/01/2020 01:22 PM	Education Working Group	Linda Kurta	<p>In order to prevent a New York pandemic experience, you need to expand Medicaid now. Not only is it morally and ethically correct, but financially sound for NC.</p>
04/01/2020 01:24 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs Amanda Williams	<p>Expand Medicaid</p>
04/01/2020 01:26 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs Amanda Williams	<p>Implement the Recommendations from the Leandro Report and properly fund NC Public Education!</p>
04/01/2020 01:27 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Salvage Titling Relief Lisa Martin	<p>Copart and Insurance Auto Auctions (IAA) are global leaders in online car auctions, specializing in salvage vehicle auctions, and both companies have facilities across North Carolina. Copart and IAA are attempting to keep their essential processes running amid DMV's current salvage title delays and more expected delays due to the lack of staffing during the Coronavirus crisis.</p> <p>Salvage titling has been running slower in North Carolina for reasons not related to Coronavirus. Titles that used to average a 4-6 week wait time are averaging at least 10-12 weeks (as of late February).</p> <p>Copart's title count pending at DMV is 10,500, which represents approximately 40 percent of Copart's total inventory in NC over a 3-4 month period. IAA's current number of titles owed from DMV is 14,962, accounting for approximately 50 percent of IAA's total NC inventory.</p> <p>With the enactment of the statewide Stay at Home order and DMV staff already out of the office due to the Coronavirus, the titling process will be delayed further, if not stopped completely.</p> <p>For this reason, Copart and IAA request the temporary ability to use titles issued in other states for ninety (90) days, or until such time as the salvage titling process resumes at normally staffed levels and titles are issued without unnecessary delays.</p> <p>Please let us know if we can answer any questions or provide additional information.</p>

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			<p>Thank you, as always, for supporting this essential industry and employer in North Carolina.</p> <p>Best regards,</p> <p>Theresa Kostrzewa and Lisa Martin representing Copart, and John Hardin and Will Morgan representing IAA</p>
04/01/2020 01:30 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mr Domonick Jackson	NC lawmakers should immediately expand Medicaid and allow over 500,000 North Carolinians to get health coverage and access care during this pandemic!! Put politics aside and do what is best for all the citizens of NC now when we all need it most.
04/01/2020 01:31 PM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Woody Eisenberg	I urge the GA to immediately expand Medicaid and allow over 500,000 North Carolinians to get health coverage and access care during this pandemic, while anticipating about \$2B in federal funds to flow into our state.
04/01/2020 01:33 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mary Ellen Shiflett	<p>Please have compassion and extend Medicaid so that more of those among us impacted by Covid19 and currently unable to find a route to health insurance can receive coverage. I have a granddaughter uninsured right now because her father cannot afford to pay the \$1000.00 per month premium that he would have to pay for her to be added to his coverage. Fortunately, for my granddaughter, I can afford to pay for her routine care, but should she have complications from Covid19, I am not sure what I would be able to do. My son works full time for a small company that simply cannot afford coverage for its six employees and he has to purchase coverage for himself, so please remember that all of the people who are looking for affordable healthcare are not freeloaders or people who squander their money. People in North Carolina need affordable healthcare, and the majority members of the current legislature are standing in the way of expanding healthcare coverage in this state. Have some compassion!!!!</p>
04/01/2020 01:34 PM	Health Care Working Group	Alice Carlton	I think we need to increase opportunities for voting by mail or by email in light of the social distancing needed to combat the pandemic. Make election day a holiday. Reduce the number of witnesses needed to sign the envelope. Create an online portal to request absentee ballots.
04/01/2020 01:40 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Amanda Everhart	Please switch to an all vote-by-mail system. This stops the spread of COVID and protects poll workers and voters. Vote-by-mail equalizes the process and is universally accessible.
04/01/2020 01:42 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Elizabeth Calloway	<p>Please allow us North Carolinians to vote by mail and please consider recruiting poll workers from our pool of university students.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
04/01/2020 01:45 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Prof. Amie Hess	We need a comprehensive vote-by-mail system. This is a way to ensure equal access to the voting process during this time of pandemic, but always. We have a lot of inequality in terms of waiting times, distance to polls, and early access voting periods across our precincts in North Carolina. This is not acceptable. A vote-by-mail system or at least as one option for voting would help to remedy these systemic inequities.

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
04/01/2020 01:48 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Dr. Matthew Kelm	As a healthcare provider, I must implore the state legislature to enact a vote by mail option. For the safety of our community the legislature has a duty to ensure voting is safe and secure this coming November. Additionally, an expected large surge in demand for absentee ballots and less availability of elderly poll workers necessitate this change.
04/01/2020 01:51 PM	Education Working Group	Ms. Adrienne Stumb	As we see from the recent "closures" of school and the migration to online learning, the lack of funding from the state has left some counties without the resources to properly care for students. While I believe that we as a state take pride in our education system, we have allowed other priorities to perhaps supplant what we know would be best for children. I truly believe that our lawmakers want to do what is right, and this crisis highlights the need to expand funding and maintain adequate technology, mental health care, and social workers in all schools. This should not be something that must be funded by individual counties. The state has a duty to provide a consistent cash flow that meets the needs of what we know is best for students. I am fortunate to work as a teacher in a county that has the tax base and county commissioners willing to invest resources into our schools. My students and my own children are receiving the tools and support during this time, but I have spoken to many districts without the necessary infrastructure. This is not due to shortsightedness on their part, but rather the state's focus on other priorities rather than the funds we know are necessary for public schools to function properly and meet unforeseen crises with as little disruption as possible. Please consider sending additional funding and support to schools and maintaining that level of funding as we move forward. Educational opportunities should be equal and not based on zip code and the will of local officials.
04/01/2020 01:52 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs Zoe Chernicoff	We absolutely MUST have vote by mail for November elections to ensure that -- when this crisis inevitably extends or re-emerges well past the dates we are currently being given for benchmarks -- any and every person who wants to vote is able to do so healthily and safely.
04/01/2020 01:52 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. Andrew Silver	This is a "no-brainer." All counties must be ready to allow all North Carolina voters to vote by mail in November, in case the covid-19 epidemic still is, or is again, too widespread to allow safe gathering at polling places. But early voting must also be extended, since voting by mail is not practical for everyone. Adequate funding for county boards to prepare for the changes must be provide. All government meetings conducted remotely also must be open and fully transparent to the public.
04/01/2020 01:54 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms Elaine Malek-Madani	Given the uncertainty that life will be "back to normal" by election day in November, it makes sense for the state to enable statewide vote by mail availability. It should be easy to register to vote, request a mail in ballot (by phone, email, online e.g.), and also to return said ballot. The State Board of Elections and the county Boards will need both directions and funds to accomplish this changeover; the Legislature needs to act fast to get procedures and money in place. Life has changed because of Covid-19 and our elections need to mirror that change. The one constant should be our desire to see as many people vote as easily as possible. There is no excuse for disenfranchisement, even in a pandemic.
04/01/2020 01:56 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections &	MS Mindy Gellin	Please consider a change to a vote by mail system in NC. This will address many barriers-work, religious, transportation, health, etc. and expand options for absentee requests Establish online portal for absentee requests

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
	Public Safety) Working Group		Establish a fund to pay for postage for returned absentee ballots OR Make Election Day a holiday Thank you
04/01/2020 02:07 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	City Councilman Billy Martin	Expand Medicaid. Do the right thing. You will be held accountable by all that Good and Righteous.
04/01/2020 02:07 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms. Margaret Alford Cloud	I strongly support the adoption of voting by mail in North Carolina. Voting by mail was in use in Washington state when I lived there in the late 1990s (it is still in use there) and I became a fan. It worked smoothly (you could mail your ballot or drop it off). It was convenient and it was less complicated than an absentee ballot - as I recall, no witness signature was required, although each ballot had security measures to prevent fraud. It is extremely important in this election year to ensure that voters can cast their ballots without impediments or disruptions. I hope the legislature proceeds promptly to approve voting by mail.
04/01/2020 02:09 PM	Education Working Group	Jeannie Eggert	In regards private schools and home schools requirements for end of semester testing. Just as public schools were allowed to not test this year because of the covid-19 impact on students, our students are impacted as well. Private schools are closed, co op learning environments are closed, students & families are stressed, our internet is strained with the added usage of all students making home learning difficult, and stay at home orders prevent learning outside of the home. We want all our children to succeed and with their learning environments affected but still requiring testing will put our students at a severe disadvantage to students in the public school system.
04/01/2020 02:10 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Dr Laura Schanberg	It is vital that continue to conduct elections despite the COVID-19 pandemic. The safest why to do this is through a comprehensive vote-by-mail system that protects voters and prevents exposures for poll workers.
04/01/2020 02:12 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Ann Collins	Because of this virus it is more imperative that Medicaid be expanded to include those people who are our most vulnerable. You cannot stick your head in the sand on this as North Carolinians die. You don't want blood on your hand!! Pass expanded medicaid now!!!
04/01/2020 02:13 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Jessica Burroughs	Dear Speaker Moore, Thank you for your leadership during this crisis. As members of the North Carolina Anti-Hunger Coalition, we appreciate the opportunity you have provided for us to submit suggestions to the House Select Committee on COVID-19. As you know, hunger was a pressing issue across our state long before the COVID-19 public health crisis. According to the USDA's 2017 report on food insecurity, one in five children in North Carolina struggled with hunger, and nearly 590,000 North Carolina households did not have enough to eat each day. Due to the widespread economic

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			<p>disruption this crisis is causing, we expect this number to grow dramatically in the coming weeks, as some emergency food providers report an increase of up to 70% in the number of clients served in just the past three weeks.</p> <p>During this time of great uncertainty and stress, it is paramount that we work together to lift the barriers to food access faced by these families and prevent additional North Carolinians from going hungry. We applaud the swift action you have taken to mitigate the harm this crisis will have on the people in our state.</p> <p>We recognize that the situation on the ground is continuously changing, and that these recommendations may need to be updated and revised. We offer the following initial recommendations to complement emerging policy and fill damaging gaps as the COVID-19 response is operationalized.</p> <p>We ask the State to provide an additional \$6 million in immediate funding to the North Carolina Feeding America food banks. This funding must be flexible to allow food banks to purchase the additional food required to respond to the crisis due to the closing of schools and layoffs caused by the appropriate government-required closings. In addition, these funds should help support the management, storage, and transportation of these critical food resources as well as additional labor required to manage the growing need and the loss of community volunteers (a large pool of which are older adults) resulting from social distancing requirements.</p> <p>To support our farmers, we ask the State to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> work with local officials to ensure farmers markets remain open; allocate additional resources to help farmers comply with CDC recommendations to ensure the health and safety of farmworkers; advocate for a federal disaster declaration and do so based on revenue losses rather than production losses; utilize funds for a Disaster Loss Program similar to the one instituted for losses caused by Hurricanes Michael and Florence, and allow emergency payments to be based on documentation of revenue for farms that do not have crop reports on file with FSA; increase funding and capacity for the Farm to School program to serve children and families and explore additional public procurement policies that would increase markets for local farmers; buy down interest rates for federal emergency loans; create no-interest loan pools to cover the interest of FSA emergency loans; and create bridge loan programs. <p>We ask the State to continue to supplement SNAP and WIC funding and take other actions to expand access to SNAP and WIC. Specifically, we request that the State provide emergency supplemental SNAP benefits to any participating SNAP household.</p> <p>We ask the State to provide the support necessary to fully operationalize the flexibility and expansion afforded by the federal COVID-19 response to safely and effectively distribute food assistance in alignment with social distancing requirements, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provide funding to operationalize P-EBT by providing meal-replacement benefits through

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			<p>SNAP for households with children who would otherwise receive free- or reduced-price meals, including working with the Department of Public Instruction to provide the benefit to children who are not currently SNAP recipients;</p> <p>provide funding to ensure the capacity each county needs to process new applications and fully administer SNAP and WIC programs while employees work remotely, and funding for frontline employees to continue service while limiting face-to-face contact with the public;</p> <p>support School Nutrition feeding sites to provide infant-and-toddler appropriate meals and whole milk for children who rely on meals provided at their childcare center, including those who are on the waiting list for the childcare subsidy; and</p> <p>remove state-level barriers to the elimination of asset tests,</p> <p>We ask the State to provide funding to child nutrition programs, with maximum flexibility for the funds to be used to purchase food or for general operational needs.</p> <p>We ask the State to close the health insurance coverage gap to ensure all North Carolinians have access to care.</p> <p>We ask the State to take steps to ensure all North Carolinians have access to broadband and technology so they may access food assistance programs and purchase groceries online, or continue to work or study from home. Specifically, we ask the State to:</p> <p>amend funding for the GREAT Program to provide \$30 million over 5 years;</p> <p>pass the FIBER NC Act to remove barriers that prevent or inhibit local governments from partnering with private providers;</p> <p>ensure all students have access to a computer; and</p> <p>increase access to technology for small businesses who are adjusting to provide virtual services.</p> <p>We appreciate your urgent attention to reducing hunger & food insecurity, and implore you to take immediate action to implement the recommendations outlined in this letter. We are available both to communicate information and updates and to provide support in the implementation of these recommendations. Please contact coalition member Jessica Burroughs at Jessica@momsrising.org with follow up questions or comments.</p> <p>Sincerely, The North Carolina Anti-Hunger Coalition Members: Action Pathways Second Harvest Food Bank of Southeast NC End Hunger Durham Food Bank of the Albemarle Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina Inter-Faith Food Shuttle Loaves & Fishes MANNA FoodBank MomsRising North Carolina Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics North Carolina Alliance for Health</p>

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			<p>NC Child</p> <p>North Carolina Justice Center</p> <p>Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina</p> <p>Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina</p>
04/01/2020 02:18 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. Anthony Wikrent	I urge consideration of a massive mail in voting system and online voting. This can even be structured in such a way that it is a big boost to temporary employment: hire people to actually seek out and guide people through the process. Set a goal of achieving vote turnout that would be a clear accomplishment. In 2000 Oregon was the first state in our nation's history to conduct a presidential election entirely by mail, and achieved nearly 80% voter participation. Increasing voter participation in our republic may not be as important a consideration as protecting the public health during a pandemic, but here is a wonderful opportunity to do both, and turn disaster into triumph.
04/01/2020 02:22 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	CNeill McLeod	These are unprecedented times, and we need to develop unprecedented ways to vote in the coming election. Voting by mail is the safest way to vote in view of the effects of COVIC-19. I support creating a system to allow each voter to cast his/her ballot, and look forward tousing this process.
04/01/2020 02:23 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs. Beverly Boyette	<p>Dear Representatives:</p> <p>Thank you for your service to our state during this difficult time. My request is that in light of the current medical crisis that you reconsider your response to expanding Medicaid in NC. I respect your position to disagree earlier, but ask that you vote now to take this expansion action to help SO many citizens who are laid off and without health care. The threat of coronavirus is even greater to them as they have no hope of health care without this measure.</p> <p>Thank you again for your leadership and consideration to expand Medicaid and gives thousands renewed hope during this most difficult health and financial crisis.</p>
04/01/2020 02:25 PM	Health Care Working Group	Chaplain Larry Greene	Medicaid expansion!
04/01/2020 02:40 PM	Health Care Working Group	Antonio Del Toro	<p>Dear Select Committee,</p> <p>I am writing to express my belief that Medicaid expansion is needed now more than ever. Medicaid expansion would cover approx 500,000 North Carolinians who are currently uninsured. These numbers will surely rise as unemployment rates skyrocket due to the economic impact of COVID. Medicaid expansion is the quickest way of increasing health care coverage during this public health crisis, and it would require no increase in state taxes. Moreover, many of the workers we deem essential do not receive pay or benefits that reflect their importance -- many have no paid sick leave, and no health insurance. Medicaid expansion would help keep our state running by ensuring that these essential workers can access medical care if they become ill. And lastly, Medicaid expansion would also support healthcare workers on the front lines of this crisis, because hospitals and Federally Qualified Health Centers would be compensated for more of the life-saving care they provide. COVID-19 doesn't care about personal political ideologies, and to seriously combat this pandemic, lawmakers should set theirs aside as well and implement common sense solutions to protect the health of all constituents.</p>

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
04/01/2020 02:47 PM	Health Care Working Group	Richard Harkrader	Now is the time to expand Medicaid in NC.