

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

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
04/17/2020 03:03 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Sharon Pridgen	Reopen nc! Not everyone qualifies for unemployment, not everyone got a stimulus check, and not everyone is at risk of death from this virus. We should be given a choice especially since grocery stores and of course Walmart are and have been continuing business as usual besides closing earlier. Anyone who goes anywhere is already at the point of enter at your own risk. Why should the small business owners and employees be the only ones to suffer. By the time this is said and done many of us wont recover, and then we have a whole new set of problems. My husband and I both are at 4 weeks from full time jobs to zero income. We dont qualify for unemployment because we are independent contractors and still have not received a stimulus check. A stimulus check in which as we speak is being spent at Walmart!
04/17/2020 03:06 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Miss Paula Peters	<p>Dear Sir/Madam,</p> <p>America was built on the understanding that our right to support our families through work, to engage in trade and reap the rewards of our labors is a fundamental, God-given right.</p> <p>I know that elected officials at all levels of government are concerned about the public health and welfare, and I appreciate that. We all need to use common sense and take precautions in the midst of the pandemic. But heavy-handed government orders that interfere with our most basic liberties are certain to do more harm than good to the American people.</p> <p>People are losing their jobs, and the impact of the current shut-down on countless families and their livelihoods will be dire and long-lasting.</p> <p>It's time to re-open our community for business. On behalf of my family, friends, and neighbors, I hereby petition you to do all that is within your power to make that happen. Thank you for your service to our community during this difficult time. And thank you in advance for re-opening NC.</p>
04/17/2020 03:06 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Emily Porter	Please keep stay at home orders in place until there is enough testing that people can go back to work safely! It is much better to have a data driven and thoughtful slow roll out that allows people to stay employed once they start working then to set us back so that no one is able to return for significantly longer with a higher loss of life.
04/17/2020 03:08 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Bridget Phillips	STAY HOME! The state needs to help Blue-collar workers and small businesses all you can, but don't open N.C. back up- we don't want to kill our parents and grandparents bc a few jerks can't sit still. It's only been a month. We don't want a nyc situation.
04/17/2020 03:09 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Kim Shellenberger	I support adoption of the initiative relating to Advance Health Care Directives (Statute G.S. 32A-25.1) allowing either a notary OR two witnesses to sign the documents. I also support adoption of the initiative (Statute G.S. 10B-3(16)) that would allow documents to be notarized remotely, especially those relating to Advance Health Care Directives.
04/17/2020 03:13 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working	Ms. Kim Shellenberger	I support adoption of the initiative relating to Advance Health Care Directives (Statute G.S. 32A-25.1) allowing either a notary OR two witnesses to sign the documents. I also support adoption of the initiative (Statute G.S. 10B-3(16)) that would allow documents to be notarized remotely, especially those relating to Advance Health Care Directives.

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04/17/2020 03:42 PM	Health Care Working Group	Catherine King	I support the expansion of Medicaid. It is important in the the short term to enable everyone to be tested for the virus and treated if they have it. It is also important because so many have lost their employer provided health care. Disasters like these illustrate the folly of having health care tied to employment. Health care for all benefits us all, and that should be blatantly obvious.
04/17/2020 03:44 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Paige Gillespie	Please Reopen our State! Businesses are not going to survive this much longer. The data just doesn't support this kind of shutdown.
04/17/2020 03:44 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Catherine King	Voting by mail (with self-stamped return envelopes) should be the new normal. Actual fraud rates for this are very low, which is clear from those states such as Oregon who have been using this method for years.
04/17/2020 03:47 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Bill Gillespie	Businesses are not going to survive this much longer. The data does not support this kind of shutdown of the economy.
04/17/2020 03:47 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Catherine King	We need to fully support our workforce through this period, with paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits. When we get back up and running we need a workforce who can show up strong!
04/17/2020 03:53 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Caryn Hommel	Please end the unconstitutional restrictions of our God given freedoms and help North Carolinians get back to work and school!
04/17/2020 03:55 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Kaaren Haldeman	We have already experienced election interference in the 2016 national elections and since then we have done little if anything to protect our right and democratic obligation to vote. Protect our democratic institutions and access to the franchise by investing in 21st century secure voting by mail or online. We are a tech-centered state and can be a model going forward, but we need leadership to invest and support these solutions.
04/17/2020 04:03 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Kristina Solloway	I believe we need to reopen businesses in NC with gradual and cautious steps in place ease back to normal living to protect the health of the people.
04/17/2020 04:12 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Linda M	Open up NC on May 1!!!! The devastation to small businesses and my family's livelihood is deadlier than any virus. Let the healthy go back to work. Anyone who is afraid of the virus can choose to stay home.
04/17/2020 04:13 PM	Economic Support Working Group	August Henderson	Please consider health and safety first and do not re-open before recommendations from top scientists, epidemiologists, and health care experts indicate that we should. Please re-open in a safe, gradual way that incorporates advice and information from top scientists, epidemiologists, and health care experts. Once we begin to re-open, please provide economic support for those who are delayed in returning to work due to COVID-19 - those who have not built immunity, who have health conditions that make them vulnerable, those who are still getting sick with the virus. Please provide significant economic and material

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			support for our most vulnerable populations including poor and working class people, gig workers, people experiencing homelessness. Please provide significant economic and support for small businesses including freelancers, sole proprietors, and gig workers.
04/17/2020 04:15 PM	Health Care Working Group	Shari Tennant	I am a Dental Hygienist in Cornelius and have been laid off due to this quarantine and luckily will have a job to go back to when the state reopens. Although I will have a job, the recovery of the dental industry will be slow due to the fear mongering that has happened by the media. However, my husband is a freelance live entertainment audio engineer and no telling when that industry will recover! We have 2 girls in college right now and will probably not be able to send them back next fall if the state doesn't reopen soon. Please do not extend the quarantine past April 30!!!
04/17/2020 04:17 PM	Health Care Working Group	Linda M	No vaccine mandates of any kind!!! Fear must not dictate our freedom and bodily autonomy!
04/17/2020 04:18 PM	Health Care Working Group	Lacey Fort	We are to the point where this shutdown is no longer about saving lives. People are already suffering, dying, and will continue to die not from the virus, but from the effects of the economy shutting down. Deaths of despair will outpace virus deaths of this continues. We are trading out some lives for others. Please #ReopenNC.
04/17/2020 04:23 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Prof. Stephen Jaffe	Dear Representatives: I am writing to ask that you be guided by medical advice and scientific evidence to make a plan to reopen NC. I urge you to not respond to loud voices of shadow groups (such as ReopenNC) making unscientific demands which will only increase death and suffering for all North Carolinians. An overwhelmed health care system impacts all of us. Higher death counts are not a boon to the economy. Thank you!
04/17/2020 04:24 PM	Economic Support Working Group		We need to reopen NC now. Business owners cannot keep going like this. People on fixed incomes cannot keep going like this. The future of our state and our country depends on us getting back to normal as soon as possible. The virus is no reason to shut down life. Reopen NC.
04/17/2020 04:24 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Jen Richardson	Our state needs to reopen for business ASAP. People are losing their livelihoods. It's time to go back to work!
04/17/2020 04:28 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mr. Stephen Jaffe	Dear Hon. Representatives: COVID-19 demonstrates the need for improved health resources for North Carolinians who do not have regular access to medical care because they cannot afford medical insurance. An expansion of MEDICAID would help to improve health statewide, and limit the damage of future virus outbreaks. Such legislation is good for the public health and for our economy. Thank you.
04/17/2020 10:23 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Josh	Open NC!!!!
04/17/2020 10:37 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Tracy Fulk	#ReOpenNC. Help small business!
04/17/2020 10:46 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working	REOPEN NC Eleanor B	We aren't gonna take this lying down.

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04/17/2020 10:48 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Re open North Carolina Laurie Martin	Our state needs to be open so we don't kill Mom and Pop business
04/17/2020 10:50 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Christen Kallam	Re-Open NC!!! This is insane. We may not be able to undo the damage being done. Keeping the government boot on the neck of the people and businesses is not saving lives. We are intelligent freedom loving people. We are being controlled by fear ! Stop this
04/17/2020 10:57 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Brenda Penley	Re-Open NC
04/17/2020 11:00 PM	Economic Support Working Group	ReopenNC Tabitha Malone	This goes against our constitution and amendments. Reopen NC. You have more people dying of suicide from being home alone than you do from this virus and this comes from someone with an autoimmune disease.
04/17/2020 11:05 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs	Do not allow Gov Cooper to amend the voting law. Reopen North Carolina!
04/17/2020 11:08 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group		Reopen N.C. do not allow Gov. Cooper to amend the voter law.
04/17/2020 11:09 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Jeri Donnelly	What does it mean to open up the state? Does it mean that mask wearing is optional? What about social distancing? Is exposing more people to non symptomatic carriers fair to the medical community when health facilities are overwhelmed? It would be good to get the state economy and educational system to work again, but we don't have adequate ammunition or protective covering for this active war against our bodies. We lack testing and quarantine facilities as well as medicines to deal with a resurgence. What we really need are clear eyed leaders who step up and make viable decisions on how to protect citizens while still providing aid to business and labor. Seems almost too simple, but in this age, where ignorance and bluster rule all too often, it is easier to win the lottery than to find leaders with enough courage to fill their public servant role.
04/17/2020 11:17 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Pat Staeblein	Please protect the citizens of North Carolina and keep the Stay at Home in place. We need more tests, there are NO tests in Stokes County at all. Stokes County wants to claim that we only have 10 cases but does not want to publicly admit that no one is being tested. The Stay at Home is barely being followed in this county as well. Since our local government is lacking in common sense and hiding information, we need the Governor to protect our citizens.
04/17/2020 11:20 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs Misty Franklin	Open up NC
04/17/2020 11:27 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mr. Peter Franklin	How many people have died of Covid-19 vs. how many have died with Covid-19? How many of those dying with Covid-19 had previously had the flu shot? How many people died

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04/17/2020 11:30 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Tammy Spargo	<p>of Covid-19 while terminally ill with something else? Why has DHHS not posted the amount of people recovered from Covid-19?</p> <p>Dear Leaders of NC, We respectfully ask that we reopen our economy and allow our small businesses an opportunity to survive. And for churches to once again be able to assemble together!! We want to be able to keep our first amendment rights intact and allow our churches to make the decision about reopening their doors, using common sense reasoning. And, to begin to help our citizens who feel isolated from each other, many of which are struggling with depression. The time is now!! We have to begin this process to be able to pull out of the economic disaster that is coming towards us. There is absolutely no doubt that if we do not begin to take commonsense steps, the cure is going to be worse than the virus!</p> <p>Respectfully,</p> <p>Tammy Spargo</p>
04/17/2020 11:31 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Cindy Taylor	Please allow businesses to reopen. Our lives depend on it! So do your lives.
04/17/2020 11:34 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Baker/barista, mom Lezlie Rusin	Reopen N.C.!!! 3 out of 4 of my family are out of work! Unemployment is skyrocketing! Even healthcare workers are being furloughed! Small businesses are closing their doors, never to reopen. We must stop this now.
04/17/2020 11:44 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Amy Noe	Please re-open North Carolina for commerce and let people go back to work! Safe measures can be practiced. Please don't destroy our livelihoods with fear. We can go grocery shopping, so we can use precautions elsewhere. It is almost impossible to get on the N.C. Unemployment site and they are inundated. We have also yet to see any stimulus money as we are now being told it has all run out. Don't strangle the life out of people and businesses in this state. It has been long enough already, let people return to work. Help us!!
04/17/2020 11:46 PM	Health Care Working Group	MRS Carrie Wallum	To protect Small Business in NC you need to allow them to go back to work! Reopen NC! Our national leaders have set out a plan- try it. Should we start to experience an increase in cases of Covid -19, we can always quarantine again. But if you don't open up the state and get these Small Businesses back to work- we are going to lose thousands and that kind of loss with have a hug impact on the future economy of our state. Be smart- Be Brave - act in the best interest of future economic stability of our state!
04/17/2020 11:56 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs. Joyce Deal	Open our state up immediately! The citizens of NC have the RIGHT to work and provide for our families. The dangers of the corona virus have been grossly exaggerated by our media and you have NO right to ruin businesses and force people out of work, for an illness with a VERY low death rate. We demand to be free citizens.
04/18/2020 12:16 AM	Education Working Group	Cindy Jones	PLEASE REOPEN NC
04/18/2020 12:33 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Maintain the Stay Home or Alexandra Duncan	I am an otherwise healthy 36 year-old with asthma. I work in a public library. My mother is a 64 year-old nurse and my sister works in a grocery store. Please do not endanger our lives by lifting the Stay Home order until there is widespread testing available for

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04/18/2020 01:02 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Sherri Callery	<p>COVID-19.</p> <p>Last time I checked, deaths by the flu/pneumonia (which has a vaccine) have not been much less than deaths by the coronavirus (which has no vaccine). This finding is based on flu data from the CDC that is not always reported, whereas every death involving a positive COVID-19 test or that doesn't involve a COVID-19 test but looks like it may be COVID-19 is rigorously reported. The reported data suggests that the coronavirus rarely or barely causes symptoms for young healthy people while having a much more serious impact on the elderly and those with multiple comorbidity factors.</p> <p>Social distancing may lessen the load on hospitals, but it has not been proven to save lives. Instead, it delays and prolongs the spread, slowing down herd immunity. Our hospitals and COVID-19 triage tents have been mostly empty while many nurses and doctors are working fewer hours due to low patient load. Necessary surgeries and therapies keep getting postponed. People are too afraid to go see doctors for conditions that will only grow worse if not treated.</p> <p>The predictive models were grossly wrong, and NC has fared far better than other states. The numbers simply do not justify obliteration of the economy. Corrective action must be taken ASAP, and this precedent must not be allowed to stand. We can't willingly choose to bring about a Great Depression, destroying half of the nation's small businesses, sending 14 million (nationwide) into unemployment every 3-4 weeks, and expect the federal government to dole out 3 trillion dollars every month that it simply cannot afford (especially when GDP and taxable income are tanking) whenever there is a new virus outbreak. Such a response would destroy our country.</p> <p>We cannot wait for a vaccine. Like the flu, the coronavirus is changing, so any vaccine that is developed will likely have similar effective rates which have ranged from minus 20% to around 60% for the flu vaccine according to the CDC, with the much lower effectiveness rates applying to the most at risk population (age 65+). But the bigger concern is that if the economy collapsed this much in just 5 weeks, there is no way we can survive a few more months, must less the 12-18 months it would take to get a vaccine. Natural herd immunity is the best option for now, especially given this virus rarely causes much harm to children and healthy, working adults. It's a disease of the elderly and sick, so let's invest our resources on isolating and providing for them while letting the healthy build herd immunity and build back the economy. Now that there are several effective treatments to shorten disease duration and improve outcomes for those who do end up needing hospital care, the risks are much lower.</p> <p>Please reopen the NC economy immediately for all healthy (i.e., no serious preexisting conditions), capable adults under age 65 as soon as possible. May NC lead the way toward a brighter, safer future for all Americans.</p>
04/18/2020 01:32 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Arlayne Calhoun	Reopen North Carolina May 1!! We need our paychecks and our businesses and our healthcare insurance!!
04/18/2020 01:46 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections &	Richard Stump	Starting a slow but steady reopening of NC in conjunction with increased testing needs to happen ASAP. People are going without medicine and anxiety rates are going up due to economic depression. The "cure" is causing more problems than the disease.

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	Public Safety) Working Group		
04/18/2020 02:12 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs PAMELA ANGELL	Please consider NC is ready for Phase One of the shutdown and allow the beginning of opening businesses. There is no need to keep our state shut down like this!!
04/18/2020 02:15 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Open NC Laura Kennedy	Open NC without delay. People can still wear masks and stay a safe distance if they care to do so. If you continue to stay shut down, our economy will never recover and millions will die.
04/18/2020 02:21 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	David Byrd	As a citizen of North Carolina, I strongly oppose the Governor's overreach of power. He has closed businesses across the entire state, limited religious freedom, and declared peaceful demonstrations to be non-essential. We want to see a plan to roll back these draconian regulations so that businesses can reopen with modified guidelines in a safe way without the need to trample on our civil rights.
04/18/2020 02:27 AM	Economic Support Working Group	David Byrd	#ReopenNC takes the virus seriously and we're not putting dollars above lives. But we do believe that the trampling of civil rights and the governor's one-size-fits-all approach to closing businesses is both morally wrong and unconstitutional. Businesses should be allowed to reopen with local governments providing modified guidelines for operations for safety. We cannot separate emotional, psychological, spiritual, and economic health from physical health.
04/18/2020 02:36 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Teri Brinegar	Put reality back into the society. Allow people the decency and dignity to be self reliant. It's constitutional, government management of people is totalitarian. My family has always obeyed good sense cleanliness and hygiene. It's just good sense.
04/18/2020 03:21 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Deborah Marion	Use medical and scientific evidence to make a plan to reopen NC; please don't respond to loud voices of groups which are making unscientific demands. Reacting to those demands will only increase death and suffering for all North Carolinians. An overwhelmed health care system impacts ALL of us. Higher death counts will not help our economy!
04/18/2020 03:22 AM	Health Care Working Group	Deborah Marion	Please expand Medicaid. Especially during a pandemic, when contagious illness impacts us all, our good health is interconnected.
04/18/2020 03:23 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Deborah Marion	North Carolina needs vote by mail to be instituted now, in time for the November election. A ballot with stamped return envelope should be mailed to every North Carolinian. Our democracy and free and fair elections are at stake; we should not have to risk our lives to vote in the United States of America!
04/18/2020 04:39 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs. CT Woods powell	I do not believe in making unscientific demands which will only increase death and suffering for all North Carolinians. An overwhelmed health care system impacts all of us. Higher death counts are not a boon to the economy."
04/18/2020 04:44 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs. CT Woods powell	Please expand Medicaid. Improved healthcare for all during this time of COVID 19 really means improved health for all North Carolinians. Especially during a pandemic, when contagious illness impacts us all.

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04/18/2020 04:48 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs. CT Woods Powell	North Carolina needs vote by mail to be instituted now, in time for the November election. A ballot with stamped return envelope could be mailed to every North Carolinian. Our democracy and free and fair elections are at stake.
04/18/2020 05:39 AM	Education Working Group	Mr Ken Overholt	<p>It is fine for our government to make suggestions on how we American citizens live our lives but they should not be placing us under house arrest or driving businesses to shutdown or forcing us to lose our means of income to buy food, pay rent, etc. by forcing businesses to lay us off. This is America, not a Communist country. Let us make our own choices.</p> <p>Those of us who are at higher risk can choose to stay home if we like while others should be able to choose to live our lives. The economic and life-impacting consequences of the mandates that the one branch of our government has forced upon us are far worse than the consequences of not having these mandates.</p>
04/18/2020 05:39 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Stay At Home Order Angie Moore	Although I am ready to return to work, I realize overall community health standards are more pressing to protect the most vulnerable. Please keep the stay at home to original plan of 4/30 then a gradual return until we have our new normal in place. I believe N.C. is strong enough and faithful to recover/strive once its confident we have protected all.
04/18/2020 05:49 AM	Health Care Working Group	Expand Medicaid Angie Moore	I know that this is a touchy subject in regards to money going here instead to tax relief for businesses however I feel the recent events prove it's needed. For a striving community, economy or state you need responsible, talented/educated/skilled and healthy population. Early diagnosis is key to a lot of ailments but most ignore symptoms because they cannot afford seeing a doctor. We cannot be healthy if some cannot go visit medical care for possible scans to determine cause. Please give people a chance to fight for their health by at least helping those that can't afford visits by expanding Medicaid. Thank you
04/18/2020 05:54 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Sarah Smith	This virus is not as serious as the media is trying to make it to be. We need to open up.
04/18/2020 06:01 AM	Education Working Group	Education Budget Gloria Craig	Stop playing around with what education. I truly think the past 30 days has shown everyone how important education is - not only the pressures facing teachers/support staff but need to keep improving technical/coping skills for community to handle sudden shifts. Please compromise for a budget to pay the staff of these schools and to improve buildings/equipment for the students moving forward. They are our future and deserve all available resources so they can be better than us. Please help them grow and show them that being responsible means to do what's best overall for the greater good instead for a selection of the population. Thank you
04/18/2020 06:12 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Continue Stay At Home Gloria Craig	Yes I'm bored and ready to walk mall , go out to dinner and kids in school but until we clear this huddle we need to keep things as they are. Yes I'm sure they're been more deaths with other things but do we really want to use THAT as a comparison? Some things we have no control of but the few we can control or limit should be readily in place. My freedoms are still here; we do most of what we did before only difference is my family haven't got sick. We going to make it as long as majority stay at home, practice social distancing, wash hands and be patience. Please be responsible and continue order as directed till May then we can see status to loosen restrictions. Thank you

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04/18/2020 06:21 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs. Amy Enochs	<p>Dear Representatives,</p> <p>David Katz from the Yale-Griffin Research Prevention Center advocates protecting the vulnerable, specifically those above 60 and with significant chronic illnesses, such as diabetes and heart disease, because 99% of active cases in the general population are mild and don't require treatment. He states, "I am deeply concerned that the social, economic, and public health consequences of this near total meltdown of normal life will be long lasting and calamitous, possibly graver than the direct toll of the virus itself. The unemployment, impoverishment, and despair likely to result will be public health scourges of the first order." Are we trading deaths and setting our public health up for more issues due to extended quarantine procedures? Please consider allowing those who wish to self-quarantine to do so. We need healthy people back to work and businesses opened to support the public health needs of all. Our medical facilities are not being overrun and more treatments are being discovered, such as vitamin c dosing and laying patients prone. We can protect our vulnerable and reopen NC. Let's do it soon before more damage is done to our public health by this extended quarantine of all.</p> <p>Sincerely, Amy Enochs</p> <p>https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/20/opinion/coronavirus-pandemic-social-distancing.html</p>
04/18/2020 06:47 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Amy Enochs	<p>Dear Representatives,</p> <p>Our NC small businesses are closing. At this writing it is almost 50%. The numbers are dire. Let's get NC back to work again. We need jobs in NC. For every 1% rise in extended unemployment deaths increase. Jobs lost may not be recovered for years. The projections of deaths from this virus have been far lower than estimated. Instead we are in a public health crisis due to forced quarantine. A local NC business man, Mr. Bob Luddy writes,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "Child abuse, domestic abuse, and suicide and depression rates are spiking. - Special needs children are floundering, and children who depend on school lunches are hungry. - Cardiac disease and cancer (the two leading causes of death in the U.S.) patients are not receiving the critical care they need to survive. - Hospitals are losing revenue and laying off medical personnel because they are not treating most patients and instead are waiting for COVID-19 cases, which are well below projections." <p>By quarantining healthy people, society is being devastated. The current myopic view has taken into account only deaths from COVID-19 (which we must question the numbers of due to inaccurate overreporting) and does not take into account a broad view of the intricate workings of a society and deaths that ensue from economic crisis. Robert Barnes writes, "The founders of our Constitution were intimately familiar with pandemics, viruses, and plagues, yet they did not allow any to suspend our constitutional liberties." By</p>

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			restoring the liberties granted to us in the constitution, society can begin the long process of recovering from this pandemic of fear. Please uphold the 5th amendment so we will not "be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law" and end this forced quarantine. Sincerely, Amy Enochs
04/18/2020 07:06 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Elizabeth Bilisoly	It is time to reopen our state. As a mental health professional, suicide rates are climbing, stress is escalating and people are feeling like prisoners of a death camp. Freedom is what we live for and what we represent. Those who choose to be flippant regarding COVID-19 suffer their own consequences. The majority of our state are adults equipped with enough discernment to make good decisions. It appears the bad decisions made can be seen in electing a socialist governor masking this extended "shut down" to meet agendas that are certainly not relevant to the people of this state. We all need to return to work, our lives and discontinue living out of fear. Now, Governor Cooper.
04/18/2020 07:16 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Continue stay at home Christy Perrin	I support following health care leaders' guidance on continuing stay at home order until we can test as needed, provide needed support to health care workers, and transmission and deaths are low. It's hard but my family is ready to tough it out to keep our healthcare system from being overtaxed and save lives. Thank you for all you've done so far to help us through this and please work across the aisle together.
04/18/2020 07:28 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Reopen please!!! Bethany Burdine	I am a small business in the beauty industry. I've been closed almost a month. Zero income. Zero help from any stimulus money. Please let me reopen with caution. I'm out of money. What am I'm supposed to do? When does this end? When the last person is out of the hospital? This is crazy and needs to end. Our state is number 2 in the nation for women owned business. Let's keep this going and let us open! Im begging you!
04/18/2020 07:35 AM	Health Care Working Group	Laura Mishra	Thank you for making the difficult decision to keep our state closed until we are able to test and treat. This is a hard time for everyone economically but putting more Americans at risk is not the responsible path forward. You are in a position to serve and do what is best for all the people in NC and that includes those who the most vulnerable. you will ultimately be held responsible for those deaths. Please do the right thing and don't open NC until it's safe!
04/18/2020 07:43 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Kathy Yelverton	Please 'Open NC'. This can be done by Encouraging all to: Continue wearing mask, Keeping 6' distance from others Continue with the hand washing guideline Don't touch face.
04/18/2020 07:49 AM	Education Working Group	Ms. Michelle Green	Please do not re-open the schools until next school year. Please do not re-open daycare centers or preschools until next school year. It has been shown that children are asymptomatic, but think about this: if their parents/grandparents caregivers wind up sick or dying of the disease, won't the system be flooded with additional emergency service needs for extra health care services as a result? Food, shelter, unemployment, foster care placement, child abuse, homelessness, etc. Waiting until August will allow all of the community to benefit. Then think about the teachers, school administrators, school secretaries, cafeteria workers, school custodians, etc, who also have families. Imagine a

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			<p>child finding out their teacher died as a result of COVID-19 and they may have infected them. That will have much more lasting trauma than missing a few months of school. Listen, children will learn just fine, they are not missing out. When the time comes, teachers, being the heroes that they are, will step up and make sure they learn. Right now we need our children, parents, teachers, and school personnel to be safe for when that time comes.</p> <p>College students are doing fine. This generation was ready to learn online. It might be more difficult for some, but not for most. I am the parent of two children in college right now and they don't like the new online classes, they are attempting to make it work. I am more concerned about increasing their anxiety and fears of infecting themselves and others than whether or not they get to be on a college campus to learn. But I know that is not the case for everyone, so I also recommend that you give these students a break; automatically give a simple incomplete to any failing students this year if they are not doing well in the online class so they don't suffer as a result. This will give them a chance to raise their gpa later while also not letting their academic record suffer as a result. I think that's fair since the government was not equipped to handle this transition. They took a step to improve their lives and they deserve support and understanding in this unprecedented time, not punishment.</p>
04/18/2020 08:00 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Michelle Green	<p>I am a former business owner. I understand the risks with losing everything and having to deal with change. I lost my business due to a Stage 3 cancer diagnosis. With that stated, I know more than most from personal experience that it's possible to transition for a few months and make life work if it means that your health and safety is no longer at risk. I have two children in college, and this was not the news we could afford, but we managed. So if it's for the health OF THE ENTIRE SOCIETY at stake, then surely keeping the economy closed until June will hurt some, but it will not kill our economy. We will recover, we are AMERICANS. We are strong, we fight, we overcome, and we can do this. When I see people carrying guns to state their right to reopen the economy please ask yourselves "What does a gun have to do with keeping your business open?" When you see patriotic flags, think about the struggle America has been through. It's like saying we can't do this for the protection of everyone. Like we are weak. We're not weak. We are strong, and we can overcome this like we've historically overcome so many other things as a nation. By re-opening America early we are actually saying to the working class "you are too weak to last an extra time so yeah, put yourselves at risk for death because you will die anyway". What kind of message is that? The government is here to protect and serve. Not give in to the weakness of a group beyond the call of the majority. Think about all of the people who do not have access to this site and need your protection. Think about them please. Think about folks like me. I want to live as long as God lets me. If I die I want to die of cancer, not of a disease that will leave me to die alone with strangers in masks, without family, and no proper funeral service. There are thousands like me with different diseases, but think about this: there are even more out there, protesting right now, who don't even realize they are too sick to beat this or are infecting someone they love. Protect them from themselves. Keep NC closed until it is safe. Everyone will be okay eventually.</p>
04/18/2020 08:00 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections &	Retired Julia Hunsucker	Let's not kill North Carolina citizens. Keep everything as is please.

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	Public Safety) Working Group		
04/18/2020 08:01 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Brian Wilson	We need to keep to sick, potentially immune deficient, and most likely to acquire the virus at home, and let others get back to work. It is essential for the well-being of our residence and our economy!
04/18/2020 08:02 AM	Health Care Working Group	Retired Julia Hunsucker	We need testing testing and more testing. Thanks
04/18/2020 08:02 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms. Michelle Green	I am for mail-in voting. Why put the public and poll workers at risk? If you can answer that question with certainty, then I would like to hear it. If the President, and armed forces, and citizens abroad can mail-in their votes, why can't other American citizens? Please answer that question with certainty before you make a decision.
04/18/2020 08:03 AM	Health Care Working Group	Beth Harper	The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the fact that many North Carolinians don't have access to healthcare. Many of these people continue to work on the front lines, serving our state at a critical time, without being cared for by the state through access to Medicaid. I believe this is unethical. We know that we can improve this deadly situation by expanding Medicaid and unlocking billions of dollars from the federal government. Our citizens deserve access to health care.
04/18/2020 08:13 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Debra Johnson	Please reopen our economy!
04/18/2020 08:17 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Michelle Green	For the protection of our health care workers, please do not reopen NC until you can provide them with the PPE they need to do their jobs. You know the numbers for the available amount of beds and ICU beds should this virus go into overload, I don't have to reiterate it here. So with that number in mind, that reason alone should be the reason why you say no to reopening the state so that every NC citizen can receive the health care they need and deserve. Think you are okay? Why not do a poll asking health care workers if they feel they have what they need, not a politician, an administrator or a citizen who is feeling fine. Thank you from cancer patients like myself and others who are depending on you to help us survive our illnesses and receive the care we need to make more memories with our families beyond this quarantine.
04/18/2020 08:30 AM	Economic Support Working Group	ms Barbra Roberman	Governor Cooper has followed the recommendations of physicians, epidemiologists and scientists in taking measures to mitigate the spread of COVID19. It has been successful, decreasing both morbidity and mortality in our state. He should continue to do so, regardless of pressure from groups funded by unknown sources pushing to "ReopenNC." Widespread death and suffering will not be a boon to our economy. Reopening NC would mean a spike in cases, as well as increased risk for health care workers and others on the front lines, as well as all other North Carolinians. Dying from COVID19 is an excruciating and lonely. Why would anyone wish an increase in this? A well considered, organized and medically sound strategy going forward would be just what the doctor ordered.
04/18/2020 08:32 AM	Health Care Working Group	ms Barbra Roberman	The NCGA must expand Medicaid immediately. COVID19 is a risk to all North Carolinians. By withholding health insurance from 600,000 of our citizens, the NCGA endangers all of our lives. Without access to health care, risk of C19 infection increases, those infected can in turn infect others. If our health care system is overwhelmed by C19 patients, all will suffer, including those having heart attacks, strokes or other emergencies, if the ICUs are

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			filled with C19 patients. It is shortsighted and ignorant, not to mention inhumane, to withhold health care from more than half a million citizens of this state.
04/18/2020 08:33 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Melissa Morgan	ReOpen NC... let's get our economy and our people back to work!!
04/18/2020 08:34 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	ms Barbra Roberman	North Carolina needs vote by mail, now, to ensure free, fair and safe elections come November. Citizens in our democracy should not have to risk our lives to cast votes in the most consequential election of our lifetime. There will almost certainly still be a great risk of COVID19 in the fall; without a vaccine, treatment, adequate testing for active infection or serologic testing, safety of citizens to vote cannot be assured. The NCBE should move immediately to make this happen.
04/18/2020 08:39 AM	Education Working Group	Keep Stay-at-home Order Tenée Miller	I am an educator in NC. Please keep and extend the stay-at-home order until it is safe to return to work/activities. Please follow science and protect citizens!
04/18/2020 08:40 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Adam Brill	Whoever is behind Reopen NC, I don't think they have the well-being of the people of our state in mind. North Carolina is not closed. We are in quarantine for the public good. Please keep stay-at-home orders in place, and extend them if necessary. Creating revenue is important to everybody, and everyone is taking a hit right now, but without healthy workers, there is no economy.
04/18/2020 08:41 AM	Health Care Working Group	Life before profit Susan Eversole	Consider that the funded, out of state organizations flooding the news and these comment page are bought and paid to misrepresent the interests of North Carolinians. I'm a 40 year Chapel Hill resident, contributing my share of taxes and requesting that the legislature protect us from those intent on serving their employers, not the public good. Do not reopen NC before the models show a better outcome.
04/18/2020 08:43 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms. Eleanor Tomlinson	Please, please for the safety of all, DO NOT allow any reopening until a proven method of testing is done and those at risk will not be put in jeopardy.
04/18/2020 08:45 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. Samuel Wells	I feel as if any reopening of businesses should be done on a City/County basis, based solely on Scientific data, testing, and with travel restrictions. I've been out of work for 5 weeks and am ready to return to normal, but I don't think that's possible. We have to look at this as "A new Normal". I'm a hairstylist and work in a salon with 20 chairs. That's 20 stylist, plus our clients, plus support staff, all in the building at the same time in tight quarters. I feel as if a blanket reopening of my business and putting so many people in one area together is unwise and unsafe.
04/18/2020 08:47 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Dr. Meghan McDowell	I am writing to voice my support for continued stay-at-home orders through May. Public health must come first during a global pandemic. I am also writing to request mail-in ballots for the November election. It is the responsibility of the general assembly to make voting accessible and safe during this "100 year" event.
04/18/2020 08:50 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working	Vivian Magarino-Gomez	Please keep the stay-at-home order until scientific data shows it is safe, and key indicators the CDC has outlined such as contact tracing and testing are in place. Thank you to Roy Cooper for keeping such a level head despite political pressure that may be coming from the financial community. Understandably, the economy is a serious concern. But there is

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	Group		nothing more serious than the risk of death.
04/18/2020 09:00 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Hair Salons Soft Opening Iris Holmes	We need to reopen NC! I'm a hair Stylist. I have applied for everything you said self-employed could get have not gotten anything yet !! We've been out of work 3 and 1/2 Weeks. Our 30 days of being out of work is April 25th. This is killing the small businesses about Alamance County not just hair salons but other small businesses that rely on that business to keep their households going. I will do everything in my power to help others to reopen North Carolina
04/18/2020 09:01 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Catherine LeMaster	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Amend voting rules to give the NC Board of Elections flexibility to respond to emergencies such as: pandemics, natural disasters, armed conflict, etc. 2. Make absentee voting easier by making ballots easier to obtain, and open to everyone eligible to vote. An on-line portal should be available to apply for an absentee ballot. Two witnesses during social distancing is unsafe and unrealistic especially for single, older people. 3. Make voter registration available on line. 4. Assume the costs for mailing in an absentee ballot.
04/18/2020 09:01 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Damien Xaros	Only by social distancing DID we flatten the curve. However, opening things up will cause it to adjust its' trajectory as well. The infections and deaths will rise. A slow roll out until we learn MUCH more about this disease is needed.
04/18/2020 09:01 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Adam Brill	In this election year, and given the current COVID-19 pandemic, it is imperative to protect and expand options for mail-in voting. If the quarantine is still in place, forcing citizens to make an unnecessary (and dangerous) choice between safety and civic duty, there will be far fewer polling places open, with fewer workers at each. We need to make it easier for people to vote, not harder. There has been no evidence of mail-in voter fraud, despite bleating from the White House.
04/18/2020 09:03 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Sean Snodgrass	<p>We must find a safe way to get back to work. We can not keep everything shut down. People need to work again even just to afford basic necessities and to keep our economy from collapsing. But we can't just open the flood gates and pretend this virus is nothing but the flu. We've all seen the pictures and videos on the news of flooded hospitals in NY and Europe. A controlled reopening would be the best compromise to try to keep people safe until a treatment could be found but not cripple what's left of our economy. An uncontrolled reopening would spread the virus and even NC could be overwhelmed.</p> <p>Certain businesses could be reopened contingent on testing employees before they returned to work. Keep those who are sick or untested at home until they have recovered or been tested.</p>
04/18/2020 09:07 AM	Education Working Group	Dr. Eugenia Baker	Please close our schools for the remainder of this school year. Please only slowly reopen NC following federal guidelines.
04/18/2020 09:09 AM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Charlotte Broughton	<p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>As a member of the dental community, please consider allowing dental offices to choose the 8 week period in which they use their funding from the PPP. We need to be able to see a light at the end of the tunnel before we start to disperse these funds. Thank you,</p>

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04/18/2020 09:30 AM	Education Working Group	Open up our state again! Tracie Dawson	Charlotte Broughton, DDS NC has been "closed" long enough! The original goal was to slow the spread so that hospitals would not be overwhelmed. Our hospitals sit nearly empty; doctors offices are only treating urgent needs. And medical workers are just waiting to be utilized. Meanwhile, children are suffering from a lack of education, social interaction, physical activity, and in the worst cases, abusive and depressed parents who are overwhelmed. ENOUGH! We did what you asked, now it's time to get back to living. We are more afraid of what this lockdown is doing to society than of this virus! People are losing entire businesses and a way of life. You have taken too much and we allowed it for a short time. We are ready to get back to our churches, jobs, schools, and way of life. We will not stop the virus entirely and it is foolish to even try under these intense restrictions you have put in place! People can only do this for so long before these steps create new public health issues such as domestic violence, substance abuse, depression, suicide, child abuse, homelessness, and poverty. We don't expect the government to "save" us nor should you even try!! We wanted to be smart and slow the spread and educate people about the risks of transmissibility and that has been accomplished. WE KNOW! Now, we need our life back and demand our freedom back!
04/18/2020 09:34 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Covid19 response Wanda Margolin	Please work within guidelines from public health and medical communities, including expansion of Medicaid to support treatment for vulnerable citizens. Please acquire sufficient testing supplies from the federal government.
04/18/2020 09:36 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Lynne Walter, MSW	The NCGA must take immediate action to expand Medicaid and ensure that over 500,000 North Carolinians received healthcare coverage so they can access healthcare. During the COVID-19 pandemic, it is more imperative than ever that the NCGA expand Medicaid. Frankly, I am embarrassed by and ashamed of my state that elected officials decided to play politics with our lives and did not expand Medicaid in 2013. I am also utterly astounded that more than a month since the first diagnosed case in North Carolina, absolutely NO legislative action has been taken to ensure the health and well-being of the people of North Carolina during the pandemic. I am confused how the NCGA can call special sessions when they want to play political games or strip away our rights, but not in order to SAVE THE LIVES OF NORTH CAROLINIANS. This is unconscionable. Leadership in the NCGA clearly has the political will to do what is necessary to protect their personal agenda. How shameful that you have no will when it comes to protecting our lives.
04/18/2020 09:43 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Grace Lawrence	The citizens of this state need to feel safe, confident and comfortable when it is time to open up the stay at home orders. Until science and data show that this virus is done, no business or government should risk the lives and health of the people by resuming too soon. The costs would be too high if there is a rebound because the stay at home order was lifted too soon. Health and well being is paramount at this time.
04/18/2020 09:52 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Lynne Walter, MSW	I understand that a group of people calling themselves "reopen nc," many of whom are undoubtedly not from North Carolina and are outside agitators, have been flooding the public comment page with their dangerous calls to reopen the state and preventing actual North Carolinians from communicating with their elected officials. Any attempt to prematurely ease life-saving stay-at-home orders will be disastrous and will result in

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			<p>spikes of infections, deaths, and a longer more drawn out recovery process. The only guidance anyone should follow is that from medical professionals and scientists, and until North Carolina has enough PPE and testing supplies to conduct widespread testing for the virus and testing of people to see if they have antibodies, there is no conceivable way that North Carolina can "reopen" safely without further endangering the health and lives of North Carolinians. No matter what a bunch of people who are saying they're descending next Tuesday on Raleigh, armed to the teeth with guns and weapons, say.</p> <p>The NCGA must act immediately to expand the maximum amount of Unemployment Insurance for North Carolinians and every North Carolinian out of work due to COVID-19 must receive that maximum amount. Additionally, the NCGA must act immediately to expand the maximum number of weeks to, at the bare minimum, the federal level 26 weeks, and every North Carolinians out of work due to COVID-19 must receive that maximum amount of time.</p> <p>We are a month and a half out from when the first case of COVID-19 was confirmed in North Carolina, and it is inexcusable that the NCGA has not held a special session to improve our unemployment system. In fact, this lack of action and lack of urgency is downright shameful and is actively harming North Carolinians and North Carolina families.</p>
04/18/2020 09:56 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs Alyson Deletetsky	<p>It is time to reopen N.C. businesses. It is absurd to think entering a small business is more dangerous than a big box store. The flawed logic behind this is beyond ridiculous. There is no science behind this. Time to use a common sense approach going forward...if you are sick, elderly, scared, compromised, etc take extra precautions or stay home. This is what we have always done in the past. Let's end this social experiment and get back to work</p>
04/18/2020 10:11 AM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Doug Lesan	<p>First of all let me to say thank you for everything that you are currently doing to help all of us who live in North Carolina.</p> <p>As a dentist practicing here in Onslow County I am Barry concerned about the amount of time it is taking to get us all back to work. Of course we all want to keep everyone safe and healthy at this time with this COVID-19 virus.</p> <p>As a small business owner, I have filled out all the proper paperwork and was submitted in a timely manner but I have not seen any results as far as any grants, PPP program, or any other assistance.</p> <p>I realize the response to everything can be overwhelming for the system, but as we continue to go a longer and longer it makes it extremely difficult to keep business open as we are restricted by the type of patients that we can see at this time. They are only limited to emergency only situations and we are not able to do our daily routines at all.</p> <p>What complicates things even further it is very difficult for any dental office to get their hands on the supplies that will be necessary when we return back to our office to be able to put on personal protective gear to treat our patients.</p>
04/18/2020 10:19 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Kathryn Staley	<p>We need to follow medical professionals' cautious recommendations for removing Stay-At-Home orders. Life is precious. We can rebuild our economy but not bring back the dead. This is the time to create inventive methods to support workers, not remove protections that will lead to more deaths.</p>
04/18/2020 10:28 AM	Continuity of State	Karen Nutter	<p>I want it noted that I, a Stokes county NC resident do not want the county or state</p>

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	Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group		reopened for business as "usual" until we have intelligent steps in place to do so. We need thorough and complete testing both for virus antibodies, as well as new cases presenting. We need staffing to accurately record new cases and track contacts that have been exposed to the virus. Until these things are in place it is irresponsible and short sighted to reopen allowing everything we have done to cut back on the spread of the virus to be negated by stupid moves now.
04/18/2020 10:28 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Susan O'Hara-Brill	I am very concerned about political pressure to accelerate the reopening process. It is my belief that the most valid, valuable, assessments of current public health conditions come from DHHS, with the research community suggesting guideline goal of 152 tests for the virus per 100,000; the current NC testing rate at 34 per 100,000 suggests that the infection rate is unknown at this point and so any decisions to relax isolation recommendations needs to be delayed until we have a clearer understanding of the risks to all of us, but most particularly to frontline workers such as healthcare providers, first responders, grocery store personnel to name only 3 and there are many, many more. The protests currently on display here and elsewhere in the country, where people are demanding "liberation", those have the hallmarks of a well organized, top down effort complete with trigger words and fury. It has required a united effort on our part as a society to try to contain the spread of the virus and I for one am not at all pleased at these attempts to divide us.
04/18/2020 10:35 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms. Lynne Walter, MSW	<p>North Carolina must enact mail-in voting with tracking and return receipt, not only during this pandemic to protect voters and poll workers from transmitting and being infected by COVID-19, but to permanently ensure that every North Carolinian has full access to the democratic process. Voting by mail is extremely secure and would expand the ability of all registered voters to participate in our democracy.</p> <p>If everyone who is eligible to vote cannot participate, then our democracy has failed. We should be striving to make it easier to vote, not harder, and we can do this by adding mail-in voting, expanding early voting, and having voting on election day.</p>
04/18/2020 10:59 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Grant A	Open NC back up. The economic destruction will far outweigh the covid19 in my opinion inflated numbers. Be a good human being mr cooper
04/18/2020 11:04 AM	Health Care Working Group	Dr Glenn Miller	<p>I am writing to the House Select Committee on COVID-19 concerning PPE supplies. I know that the hospitals and medical are in great need of PPE at the current time. They need to have as many supplies as they need during this COVID-19 crisis.</p> <p>However as the crisis wanes and the need for PPE by hospitals and medical is all satisfied, there will be a great need by dentists to have adequate supplies of PPE to be able to reopen our dental practices. I am requesting that your Select Committee, the NC Legislature and the NC Emergency Management be aware of this critical need for the near future reopening of dental practices to serve the dental needs of our NC citizens.</p> <p>Thank you for all your work on behalf of NC citizens during this unprecedented time. Glenn B Miller DDS 119 Turnstone Drive, Durham, NC 27703 milzooster@gmail.com 828-280-1224</p>
04/18/2020 11:04 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Zachary Kopkin	Governor Cooper and his administration are showing decisive leadership by taking vital first steps to reduce the virus' spread and provide some relief to working people. However,

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			the General Assembly must follow up with actions to ensure working North Carolinians who are directly and indirectly impacted continue to have the resources they need to do their jobs and support their families – leaving no worker behind.
			Lawmakers should immediately pass legislation to ensure that our state's Unemployment Insurance (UI) system will help workers and their families weather this crisis.
04/18/2020 11:16 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr Rollin Kibbe	The Governor and public health officials have made the right, science based decisions to protect the public. We need to respect our first line medical folks, and continue to stay at home for as long as it takes.
04/18/2020 11:27 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Reopen NC!! Kelly Gholson	We need to reopen NC with restrictions. We need to keep businesses in business and keep up the economy. For those who choose to quarantine, let them, but don't take away the rest of our rights with the continued shut down.
04/18/2020 11:32 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Michael Martine	Please consider making internet connectivity a public utility for the entire state of North Carolina to allow citizens to work and learn from their homes. This is particularly important for the rural counties of the state that are not yet served by commercial internet providers. Furthermore, given the advances in technology, particularly 5G, do not waste taxpayer funds to provide service that would be rapidly obsolete, and instead focus/partner on bringing 5G first/fast to the un/underserved citizens.
04/18/2020 11:32 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr Nick Winstead	Please do everything in your power to ensure fair and equitable access to absentee ballots in the likely event that COVID-19 continues to disrupt normal life through the fall of this year. You owe it to your constituents to make voting safe and fair.
04/18/2020 11:34 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Rebecca Fox	Please maintain the stay-at-home order! No business is worth people dying.
04/18/2020 11:37 AM	Education Working Group	Mr. Geoffrey Berry	It is my belief that we should remain in quarantine with access to food and essential businesses until we have numerical evidence of cases declining in NC for at least two weeks, then add up to 2-4 weeks of safety net. I am a teacher, and I dearly miss my students and our classroom. This has been tough for all of us, but we now have a robust distance learning in place. I would love to be back in the classroom now, but not for the sake of ease of lifestyle. To try and go back before we have evidence is true decline in covid-19 feels like a mistake for all of society. I hope the state of NC can give small business and self employed citizens relief as well. Corporate businesses can survive, but our community businesses may not. Thank you for your consideration.
04/18/2020 11:39 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Geoffrey Berry	I hope the state of NC can give small business and self employed citizens relief in the form of tax cuts, stipends and rental/lease payment delay. Corporate businesses can survive, but our community businesses may not. Thank you for your consideration.
04/18/2020 11:42 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections &	sarah cross	I'm writing in a quick note to thank you all for continuing to keep our shelter in place orders in place until we have adequate testing, tracking, and PPE gear to prevent a second and third wave of infections (and not having reached the peak for the first!) Staying closed

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	Public Safety) Working Group		down is the ONLY acceptable response to this deadly virus. thank you again, sarah
04/18/2020 11:47 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Kathryn Horne	I wasn't sure which category to choose. I work in Food Service at UNCG, so I've been out of work since March 13. Testing is vital to re-opening in a safe manner. I know Gov. Cooper is trying to make them more available and so much red tape and mismanagement is in the way. Please don't allow these #REOPEN protests to cause this problem to last even longer.
04/18/2020 11:59 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Cris Rivera	Do not lift the stay at home order in NC earlier than epidemiologists feel we should. ReopenNC is a politically motivated and funded machine stirring up the populace in their idleness and poverty. Yes many of us are individually hurting but we also can care for each other much more easily when we are healthy and not listening to the noise. It should always be for the good of the people not just individuals. Thank you.
04/18/2020 12:13 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Tony Bennett	Following current data that is provided through several locations such as State of NC and the CDC, it is imperative that the business community in our state have ALL closing orders lifted immediately. Governor Cooper's decision to keep the businesses closed is causing more long term damage than the Covid-19 virus would have caused had we remained operating normally. The real numbers do not support the Governors actions and I feel that this stranglehold on our State Economy has more a political basis than concern for business. The fallout from this debacle is going to be catastrophic. Hard working people are on the brink, if not already in some cases of losing everything they have! If businesses fold, losses will be complete including homes, savings, and services they provide. The lack of concern that I perceive in these announcements about closing and extensions is appalling. I urge the House Select Committee on Covid-19 to OPEN OUR STATE! Our businesses are on deadly short time!
04/18/2020 12:21 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs. Diana Boseman	Please continue to keep us under stay at home orders. The economy is important, but life is more important.
04/18/2020 12:32 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Ronnie Long	<p>Mr. Speaker,</p> <p>Caution, Common Sense, Personal Responsibility, three terms that should be leading our nation right now out of this "PANDEMIC".</p> <p>The governmental reaction to this virus is proving to be more harmful than the virus itself.</p> <p>America has shown throughout our history that We The People are much better equipped to manage our personal lives and affairs than any governmental entity.</p> <p>Given truthful and accurate information I believe, even in this current situation, that Americans could and would step up as in all previous natural disasters and do what is necessary, prudent and right to fight this virus and overcome it without damaging our nation and our economy.</p> <p>I believe in the American Spirit and our ability to overcome all challenges that are harmful to us as a united people.</p> <p>It is time for We The People to stand up strong, take responsibility for ourselves and our</p>

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			<p>nation and put all of our governmental entities, Local, State and Federal on notice that we will no longer stand idly by and watch them destroy this nation, our economy and way of life.</p> <p>Now is the time to ReOpen NC and get our economy and citizens back to work.</p> <p>Remove the restrictions on businesses and let us do what we do best. Small business owners know best how to manage their businesses, and employees in a safe and responsible manner that will not endanger the employees or our customers. It's time for government to get out of our way and let us get back to business and end the stress that so many people are under at this time.</p>
04/18/2020 12:37 PM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Lisa Nadler	Please expand Medicaid. Improved healthcare for all during this time of COVID 19 really means improved health for all North Carolinians. If you are afraid, you can't afford the bill, you're not going to get seen when you have symptoms. This puts everyone at risk.
04/18/2020 12:54 PM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Spencer Dempsey	Until there is viable treatment, widespread testing, and properly outfitted and prepared healthcare facilities, the most stringent limitations on activity that are enforceable should be maintained.
04/18/2020 12:54 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mr. Michael Kelley	Hi, I just wanted to add my voice to the open the State or not conversation. As much as I hate staying home I can't agree with the small group who want to open up the State now. Not enough testing and followup infrastructure in place. I am 68 over weight and with a lung condition and would like to live a little longer. I support the State and and Durham county stay in place instruction. The Economy won't help if you are not alive to enjoy it. Thanks for listening.
04/18/2020 01:11 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Johanna Bernhardt	Please keep our populace safe and listen to medical experts about virus predictions. Opening up schools and businesses too soon is so very harmful.
04/18/2020 01:23 PM	Economic Support Working Group	#ReOpenNC Susan Altman	#ReOpenNC
04/18/2020 01:40 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Diana Pittman	Please please do not reopen. We are just now starting to see the cases in out counties here on the coast.
04/18/2020 01:47 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Joseph Charping	<p>I think you are being proactive and I support the restrictions that you have put in place to protect is. I would rather wear a mask than a ventilator.</p> <p>I'm hoping the curve will flatten and begin to reverse by the end of the month.</p>
04/18/2020 01:47 PM	Education Working Group	Ms Mara Corter	I'll be staying home until medical professionals and public health officials deem it safe to return to work. Not politicians worried about their re-election chances.
04/18/2020 01:55 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Stephanie Brown	Governor Cooper has followed the recommendations of physicians, epidemiologists and scientists in taking measures to mitigate the spread of COVID19. It has been successful, decreasing both morbidity and mortality in our state. He should continue to do so, regardless of pressure from groups funded by unknown sources pushing to "ReopenNC."

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			Widespread death and suffering will not be a boon to our economy. Reopening NC would mean a spike in cases, as well as increased risk for health care workers and others on the front lines, as well as all other North Carolinians. Dying from COVID19 is an excruciating and lonely. Why would anyone wish an increase in this? A well considered, organized and medically sound strategy going forward would be just what the doctor ordered.
04/18/2020 01:56 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Stephanie Brown	North Carolina needs vote by mail, now, to ensure free, fair and safe elections come November. Citizens in our democracy should not have to risk our lives to cast votes in the most consequential election of our lifetime. There will almost certainly still be a great risk of COVID19 in the fall; without a vaccine, treatment, adequate testing for active infection or serologic testing, safety of citizens to vote cannot be assured. The NCBE should move immediately to make this happen.
04/18/2020 01:56 PM	Health Care Working Group	Stephanie Brown	The NCGA must expand Medicaid immediately. COVID19 is a risk to all North Carolinians. By withholding health insurance from 600,000 of our citizens, the NCGA endangers all of our lives. Without access to health care, risk of C19 infection increases, those infected can in turn infect others. If our health care system is overwhelmed by C19 patients, all will suffer, including those having heart attacks, strokes or other emergencies, if the ICUs are filled with C19 patients. It is shortsighted and ignorant, not to mention inhumane, to withhold health care from more than half a million citizens of this state.
04/18/2020 01:58 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Desirae Allen	Please re open NC. We can go back to working but also social distance at the same time.
04/18/2020 02:00 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Robert Underwood	It's past time to put people back to work. If you're afraid, stay home.
04/18/2020 02:00 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. John Shinal	Act immediately to expand absentee ballot voting to ensure as broad and numerous a voting turnout as possible. Please do not delay. Expanded Absentee voting for NC has benefits for all our citizens.
04/18/2020 02:06 PM	Economic Support Working Group		Please allow small businesses and arts groups to re-open as long as they adhere to social distance requirements.
04/18/2020 02:06 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Katrina Jackson	Please maintain the current stay at home order. Reopening businesses too early will be devastating to public health
04/18/2020 02:07 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	MerrieBeth Harbuck	I agree with President Trump when he gave the responsibility of "Reopening" the states to the Governor. The Governor of the State of North Carolina has the power and responsibility to allow us to open our businesses. The individual states are still run under The Constitution. Not allowing us to "Reopen" at a timely manner is not a part of the constitution. Some areas have been hit more than others. The areas that have not been affected by Cov-19 should be allowed to start back to normal lives. Governor Cooper seems to be using his position to control individuals rights by making threats, etc to keep us from going back to work. There needs to be a more insight on "reopening" areas that are not having "outbreaks" This was not done during the other viruses, H1N1, etc. Time to "REOPEN NORTH CAROLINA"

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04/18/2020 02:08 PM	Health Care Working Group	Katrina Jackson	Medicaid expansion is needed to support the health care needs of North Carolinians during this pandemic. Please approve expansion of Medicaid—it has been on hold too long
04/18/2020 02:09 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Male Jimmy Southard	Reopen NC the covid- 19 virus is not 10 times worse than the flue that is a lie. We need our state open now.
04/18/2020 02:10 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Katrina Jackson	Please expand mail in voting efforts to keep us safe and empowered!
04/18/2020 02:14 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Kyle Hendren	Reopen NC. You are damaging our economy. The media is spreading fear with their misleading headlines. Open up now. I implore you to find the facts.
04/18/2020 02:16 PM	Health Care Working Group	Rev Margaret Howell	Now is the time to put politics aside and act in the best interest of ALL our citizens, not just the ones in your party, not just the ones who are useful to you. Medicaid needs to be instated immediately. No, poor people are not undeserving, lazy or a threat to the "powers that be." They are human being who are suffering in the richest country earth. I have Covid 19. I am lucky, I have a enough money for food and medicine. Many are not so fortunate. Grow up! Man Up! Stop playing games with people's lives. You were elected to serve the people, not yourselves. DO it!!
04/18/2020 02:22 PM	Health Care Working Group	Constituent Melissa Cooper	<p>Hello, I am a North Carolina resident. I am writing in to support the expansion of Medicaid and Medicare. During the shelter at home people have been laid off or furloughed and they are losing their healthcare during a pandemic which makes every individual and every community more vulnerable. We need to expand Medicaid and Medicare for all. We need Universal Healthcare because it is our pathway to our right to life.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Melissa Cooper Charlotte, NC</p> <p>North Carolina Voter since 2011</p>
04/18/2020 02:29 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Constituent Melissa Cooper	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I am a North Carolina resident that has voted in this state since 2011. North Carolina has a duty to expand the voting options for its residents. Voting should be more accessible especially during a pandemic when there are shelter at home orders. We should be able to expand the option to vote by mail. It's is already an option within a limited capacity but it should be expanded with the proper oversight. There is minimal evidence of voter fraud while voting by mail and were are more than capable of credit he responsible oversight to deter such measures. It is 2020 and it is time to adapt and evolve.</p>

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			<p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Melissa Cooper Charlotte, NC</p>
04/18/2020 02:33 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Suzanne Dorsett	The moderate centrist in me believes saving lives and saving the economy are both important goals. I believe NC Gov Roy Cooper aims to balance public health and economic recovery with plans to test, trace, trend and I support the steps he has taken so far. Please increase funding for more widespread testing and tracing. And please provide PPE and practical information to businesses to help them operate as safely as possible during the pandemic. Thank you!
04/18/2020 02:36 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Peter Watkins	It's time to reopen NC. Target pandemic measures to hotspot areas. Let counties manage their situation.
04/18/2020 02:41 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs Sherri Lowder	Support you in stay at home orders!!
04/18/2020 02:42 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms Marcia Ostendorff	Stay closed. It would be pure folly to open the state before the data supports opening. And, it must be done slowly. I support Governor Cooper's method of taking things as they come. Slowly, methodically, data driven.
04/18/2020 02:43 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Constituent Melissa Cooper	<p>Hello,</p> <p>My name is Melissa and I am a North Carolina resident who has voted in this state since 2011. I support the shelter at home order as it is one of the most effective measures we can take in slowing the spread of a novel virus. I understand Governor Roy Cooper is receiving an unprecedented amount of pressure to Reopen especially as though nothing ever happened. I support shelter at home and will continue to support it if we need to extend the order. I equally support the preliminary discussions to open the economy back up in phases to prevent a resurgence of infections. Those of us who support shelter at home are also facing financial hardships, and want to go back to work and care about the economy. Those feelings are not unique to the reopenNC group. The shelter at home supporters are choosing to use their personal liberties to preserve life as the highest priority. Many of us chose to close our businesses prior to the executive order. We support a slow phase by phase reopen with extensive testing and keeping social distancing measures in places. We also believe that businesses that reopen should have to abide by social distancing guidelines and offer their employees PPE and paid sick leave. I just hope businesses understand that it will not be business as usual.</p> <p>Many of us will continue to voluntarily shelter at home as much as possible. A significant amount of parents will not be sending their kids back to school even if schools reopen. We are planing to continue our stay at home as much as possible for the upcoming months and we will only buy necessities and support local small businesses who are following the social distancing guidelines.</p> <p>Thank you, Governor Roy Cooper for taking our health seriously.</p>

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			Sincerely, Melissa Cooper Charlotte, NC
04/18/2020 02:46 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mr. James Bowers	To protect our healthcare workers and vulnerable populations, I implore you to extend the stay at home order and closure of non essential businesses until the state can implement sufficient testing and contact tracing to safely begin a phased in reopening of the state. Failure to do so will put blood on your hands for the lives that will be lost.
04/18/2020 02:49 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Jennifer Shepherd	I may have to work due to working with ICF clients residing in group homes but it is vital to their lives and for those having to work with them to continue the course you have set. I stand for their voices and mine. Yes, they miss their families. No, they don't understand why they can't engage in their regular routine. But: #stayingHomeSavesLives
04/18/2020 02:58 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Sam Henderson	I have a 33 year old disabled son that could catch the C-19 virus. But I care more about his freedom and our Constitution. You need to force Cooper to get off his high horse and stay all of the orders he has decreed and open our State back up. Also drop the charges on the Patriot woman that RPD arrested.