

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

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
04/23/2020 03:01 PM	Education Working Group	Ouida Watson	I would like to see the budget for public schools follow the guidance of the Leandro case and restore funding to teacher assistants and fully fund the support positions of Guidance Counselors, Social Workers, and School Nurses. The need has existed but not been funded due expenditures of funds for tax cuts and write offs for business. I would like to see an end to subsidized funding for parochial and other private schools called "Opportunity Scholarships." Additionally I would like to see the management of Charter Schools be returned to the school district where the school is located. Options for locally developed "charters" would ensure that schools are run by educators and school business leaders who's focus in on the student rather than income. All students deserve to have equitable access to a free public education no matter where they live. As a former DPI consultant, I saw first hand the deficiencies in districts where local revenue is the basis for educational funding. I moved to NC in 2004 to work at DPI and enjoyed the opportunity to work in a progressive student centered agency. That does not exist at the present time.
04/23/2020 03:05 PM	Health Care Working Group	Rev.	Please support the expansion of Medicaid for all North Carolinians. It will bring jobs and federal dollars to our local economies, support low-income employees who have lost their jobs and provide a safety-net health care program for low income people. WE ARE IN A CRISIS, THIS IS URGENT!
04/23/2020 03:31 PM	Health Care Working Group	Barbara Perkins	I don't think the governor is applying the criteria well. If you increase testing, cases are going to increase. I think the correct measure is the comparison of the positive tests to number of tests performed. (The percentage of positive tests of all tests.). Also congregate living tests and positives should not be included in these totals until phase III.
04/23/2020 04:20 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms. Lynne Walter, MSW	I have a question about part of the revised 2019HDBILL DRAFT 2019-STfzp-47A [v.3]: Healthcare professionals have been telling us for weeks not to touch our faces, and not to touch masks once we've put them on until we're done with them and take them off and are able to immediately wash our hands. Yet, lines 1-3 were added on page 7 of the new draft that say people will have to take masks off and be exposed to if law enforcement are asymptomatic carriers of COVID-19. Does law enforcement have to take their masks off, too? Doesn't that also put law enforcement at risk of contracting COVID-19?
04/23/2020 05:09 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ouida Watson	I support the use of voting by mail. There is no reason to continue to put people at risk by having to show up in person like what we saw in Wisconsin. Allowing voting by mail will ensure that all who want to vote have the opportunity to vote. It will reduce the amount of staff needed to run polling stations. If you are serious about increasing voter turn out, voting by mail should be implemented. We aren't required to show up to pay taxes. are we? Using this time to plan should enable a smooth transition into voting by mail.
04/23/2020 05:16 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs. Jacquelyn Simms	<p>We've seen 36 other states take the funds to expand Medicaid and save their rural hospitals from shuttering. This is a particular need in the mountains of western North Carolina.</p> <p>Medicaid expansion can also boost our economy and protect our healthcare system and rural hospitals. Now is the time to expand Medicaid and show North Carolinians that our leadership cares deeply for the health of our people, our healthcare system and our economy.</p>

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04/23/2020 05:19 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs. Jacquelyn Simms	<p>We have seen how Medicaid expansion has helped reduce inequities and improve access to care for families who need it the most. The COVID-19 crisis is showing us that we need Medicaid expansion more than ever. When one person in the coverage gap can't get the care they need, then it affects not only their families, but their neighbors and the entire community.</p> <p>We've seen 36 other states take the funds to expand Medicaid and save their rural hospitals from shuttering. This is a particular need in the mountains of western North Carolina.</p> <p>Medicaid expansion can also boost our economy and protect our healthcare system and rural hospitals. Now is the time to expand Medicaid and show North Carolinians that our leadership cares deeply for the health of our people, our healthcare system and our economy.</p> <p>We have seen how Medicaid expansion has helped reduce inequities and improve access to care for families who need it the most. The COVID-19 crisis is showing us that we need Medicaid expansion more than ever. When one person in the coverage gap can't get the care they need, then it affects not only their families, but their neighbors and the entire community.</p>
04/23/2020 05:20 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Jacquelyn Simms	<p>We've seen 36 other states take the funds to expand Medicaid and save their rural hospitals from shuttering. This is a particular need in the mountains of western North Carolina.</p> <p>Medicaid expansion can also boost our economy and protect our healthcare system and rural hospitals. Now is the time to expand Medicaid and show North Carolinians that our leadership cares deeply for the health of our people, our healthcare system and our economy.</p> <p>We have seen how Medicaid expansion has helped reduce inequities and improve access to care for families who need it the most. The COVID-19 crisis is showing us that we need Medicaid expansion more than ever. When one person in the coverage gap can't get the care they need, then it affects not only their families, but their neighbors and the entire community.</p>
04/23/2020 05:23 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms Carolina Candelaria	<p>You must act immediately to ensure voting by mail is available to all North Carolinians for the Runoff and November elections. Please ensure we have the funding so we do not have to risk our lives like those who died after contracting Covid 19 at the polls in Wisconsin.</p>
04/23/2020 05:59 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Joy Haldeman-Englert	<p>I am writing as a concerned North Carolinian to ask that you please support expanding Medicaid. I believe that each of us is at risk when any of our neighbors, family members or friends can't get the care they need and that this is true not only during the current pandemic but at any time.</p> <p>Not only is Medicaid expansion good for the overall physical health of our state, but it is also beneficial for our economic health. Medicaid expansion will bring jobs and federal</p>

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			<p>dollars to our local economies, support low-income employees who have lost their jobs and provide a safety-net health care program for low income people.</p> <p>For the good of us all, please make the expansion of Medicaid benefits a reality.</p> <p>Thank you for your time, Joy Haldeman-Englert Black Mountain 28711</p>
04/23/2020 06:02 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Lyndsey Parham	Please consider and work towards Medicaid expansion that would bring jobs and federal dollars to our local economies, support low-income employees who have lost their jobs and provide a safety-net health care program for low income people.
04/23/2020 06:11 PM	Health Care Working Group	Kriss Teel	Open the state back up immediately!!!
04/23/2020 06:18 PM	Education Working Group	The Refinery Salon Beverly Reddinger	Reopen NC, you are starving our family.... 4 weeks and \$0.....are you going without money? Stay home and starve should be our government's motto!!!!
04/23/2020 06:21 PM	Health Care Working Group	Desperate Shelley RohmWalters	<p>Mr. Cooper:</p> <p>Okay for starters YOU sir, did NOT get my vote! This 3 phase reopen N.C. is so ridiculous! 8-10 days will not make a significant difference in numbers! What 8-10 more days will do is burry some small business owners! I had a long conversation with a small business owner just yesterday while getting take out. He was also impacted by the tornado that swept through Matthews 2 months ago and had to close his restaurant for 2 weeks due to roof damage. He was only open a week and then Covid19 hit! He was so depressed and disheveled looking, unlike I have ever seen him before. He has a wife and two small children to support and he had very little hope left to survive! YOU sir, need to act sooner than another month or two or YOU will be the cause of other casualties not caused from Covid19! None of this is truly impacting you wallet or peace of mind.</p> <p>BTW we are NOT all in this together! WE are being forced against our will to be in this situation! I refuse to live in fear! I will use good judgment and common sense!!</p> <p>Warmest Regards, Shelley</p>
04/23/2020 06:23 PM	Economic Support Working Group		<p>My family has a small business that is suffering greatly because of the continued lock down on the hard-working people of NC... A business that we've built & worked hard for over the last fifteen years. We have 5 children, a home to keep up, & bills to pay like everyone else. The right to work & live as we wish is what this great country is built on! Those who wish to continue self-quarantine have every right to do so. Those who do not wish to be denied their right to work also have the same right to choose as we weigh the risks of the situation for ourselves!! We North Carolinians do not need a governor to tell us where we can & can not go, or wether or not our jobs are essential. Every job is essential, & it hits hard when it's YOUR family's income & small business being affected. Open NC now!</p>
04/23/2020 06:28 PM	Economic Support Working Group	wanda cooper	it is time for you in the legislature to do what you were put in office to do, to stand up for the thousands of north Carolinians that want to get back to work, the cases and death

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			numbers vs the population does not warrant this, you need to overturn the executive order now
04/23/2020 06:31 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Retired Law Enforcement S Kim Loflin	Please open our state with safety provisions in place. People are scared and worried about thier business and bill that are coming due. Trust the NC citizens to do the right thing.
04/23/2020 06:35 PM	Education Working Group	President Janice Thompson	Tender Mercies Pet Organization relies on people traveling because we need boarding income to save rescues. Our kennel will be closed and thousands of dogs will die without us. Open NC now.
04/23/2020 06:38 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Open NC Daniel Jarvis	Open NC before it's to late. Being closed is causing more damage then the Virus!
04/23/2020 06:38 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Elizabeth LaBar	All Americans deserve health care. All of our elected officials have it. The public pays for it. Now make sure the tax payers get it.
04/23/2020 06:43 PM	Education Working Group	Stay at home extension! Ronald Belton	The NC State Legislators need to immediately vote to override Gov Roy Cooper's extension to May 8. This is an assault on our basic civil liberties. Not to mention the businesses in my community that are dying. Vote to reopen NC now!
04/23/2020 06:44 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Brenda Brown	ReOpen NC!
04/23/2020 06:45 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mr. David Austin	I an not into politics. I have not voted in over 15 years. But I am smart enough over the years to spot a deliberate lie just to usher in an agenda of more control and forced vaccination. Do you remember we murdered about 1,000,000 Iraquis over a lie that Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction. After that lie I never trusted anything form the Government again and this Covid-19 virus fits the script. The actual numbers tell a different story. After Trump thru out the Gates, and Fucci model that led to the whole world into a lockdown over fradulant numbers we are now working with real numbers and the studies show that the fatality rate form this cover-19 is in the same ballpark as what is expected during a normal influenza season. So this is now more about politics than health. What really is Gov. Cooper's agenda. it is certainly not in the best interest of the people he governs.
04/23/2020 06:45 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Deborah Jones	NC needs to be reopened especially for small business owners, hair salons, barber shops. If people are still afraid of the virus, they can stay home.
04/23/2020 06:46 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs. Lou Anne Hunter	Reopen North Carolina.
04/23/2020 06:47 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections &	Mr. Steve Wagner	Re-open NC! The OLD NORMAL has been working just fine since 1776. We see right through the scheme that you are trying to pull. You will be unemployed in November. Honestly, I hope

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	Public Safety) Working Group		you keep pissing on our constitutional rights, and get yourself brought up on charges over it by the Senate judiciary. See ya Tuesday! ;-)
04/23/2020 06:48 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Nancy Lewen	The NC State legislature needs to do it job and not allow our constitutional rights to be destroyed and stolen unlawfully by the Governor of this state. You are complicit in families being destroyed, people going hungry (and they don't want government handouts but want to WORK)!! There is increased domestic violence, child abuse, depression and suicides. Most small businesses cannot get any aid at all including unemployment. This has to STOP.....DO WHAT YOU WERE ELECTED TO DO!!!!
04/23/2020 06:49 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs Jean Lampley	Cooper has unconstitutionally extended this unnecessary lockdown. This is tyranny!! The people of this state have had enough! It's time for you to do your job and overturn this order now.
04/23/2020 06:50 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Vickie Reid	Reopen our state NOW! It is our God-given constitutional right to work and provide for our own families! No phases needed...just REOPEN! Hear the voice of the people whom you are sworn to serve!
04/23/2020 06:50 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Wynenda Riggs	I request that you strip Governor Cooper's power so that we can get back to work. He should give the counties the authority to make their own decisions regarding their communities reopening.
04/23/2020 06:51 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs. Marilyn Southern	Please intervene and stop Roy Cooper with his continued shutdown of our state. This is unnecessary and some counties have very few cases. I fear he will continue to extend his shutdown. A much larger group of people are suffering than people with covid. He is destroying our state. Please exercise any powers you have to override this destruction of lives of our people.
04/23/2020 06:54 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Brian Andrews	Re-open North Carolina!!
04/23/2020 06:57 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Open North Carolina Josh Clarke	Please move to open North Carolina for business immediately. Families are hurting. Businesses are being destroyed. The "cure" is proving worse than the disease.
04/23/2020 06:57 PM	Economic Support Working Group	1958 Betty Bass	REOPEN OUR STATE!!! WE NEED OUR ECONOMY TO GET BACK WHERE IT WAS BEFORE THIS STUPID VIRUS CAME ALONG!!!!!!
04/23/2020 07:02 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mr James Feldman	Reopen NC. This lockdown is going to destroy everything I have worked for. I have been laid off since March. I cannot go until July without a paycheck.
04/23/2020 07:02 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Leilani Logan	Please put an end to the stay at home order - we, the citizens of NC, are smart enough to know how to protect ourselves, maintain social distancing and slow the spread without this executive order that has stripped our basic right of freedom. Open gyms, restaurants and hair salons in Phase !!!! Or better yet - no phasing! So many lives disrupted - your people are hungry. I know, I help feed them in food banks and schools.
04/23/2020 07:02 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Deborah Fillman	Please read this, and do everything you can to act on it. The last line is the message I want you to remember so it keeps you up at night. Literally. They said: Corona will kill 120m people if we don't close everything down. Corona will kill 120k people if we don't close everything down.

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			<p>Corona will kill 80k people if we don't close everything down. Corona will kill 60k people if we don't close everything down.</p> <p>That's one month worth of models, ALL OF WHICH took into account social distancing and extreme measures to shutter businesses and personal lives.</p> <p>Now we're finding out, thanks to antibody tests that thousands upon thousands of people who had it never even knew they did, which means it's still just as transmissible as it always was and, simultaneously, is nowhere near as fatal.</p> <p>The idea was to flatten the curve, not lock everyone in their houses indefinitely until someone decided they were worthy of providing for their families.</p> <p>It's time to re-open businesses and let people go back to work. Cautiously. At any time going forward, no matter when it is, the excuse will be "We run the risk of a second wave." Yes. We do. But there's no evidence whatsoever that staying inside for another month is going to do anything to prevent that second wave, especially when you take into account that every time the numbers get more solid and more data produces them, the virus becomes less of a threat.</p> <p>The time has come to let people work again. And if you want to argue we shouldn't, then you need to give me numbers that you would find acceptable before we can start things moving again because this vague "soon" and then "soon" and then "soon" isn't going to work indefinitely.</p> <p>Let people work. Let people function. Let people get outside. And if you don't want that today, set a target for what goal post will have to be reached to let that happen. Politicos need to prove, right now, and not a minute later, that there is a motivation to start producing again. Anyone who has a problem with this, fine. Have your problem. Just understand that your problem is with the timing of when we make the calculation of risk, not IF we make the calculation of risk, and if you believe that we can irrationally keep up like this indefinitely, then I urge you to stay at home after everything starts moving again.</p> <p>Shutting down as we did was prudent. Staying shutdown indefinitely is suicide.</p>
04/23/2020 07:03 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Eric Ward	#ReopenNC
04/23/2020 07:04 PM	Economic Support Working Group	NC free Dusty Buckner	Open NC
04/23/2020 07:04 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Jennifer Gupton	<p>Please end the shut down! I cannot wait to vote for Dan Forest in November. #reopennc</p>
04/23/2020 07:05 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Jo Page Sicz	<p>I cannot fathom why our state legislators is sitting, twiddling their thumbs, while the moron in the governor's mansion is destroying our economy. The virus is nothing more than a virulent flu but the left has politicized it to take control of our elections, & YOU NEED TO STOP IT NOW. The people of North Carolina demand their freedom back. Either you</p>

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04/23/2020 07:06 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Allison Meder	<p>give it to us, or we'll start taking it ourselves.</p> <p>Our great people of North Carolina MUST go back to work. Families are suffering, CHILDREN are suffering. Please encourage Governor Cooper to relax these guidelines. More and more studies are showing that many of us have already had the virus. We must get back to our lives before more people suffer from the economic impact!</p> <p>How can we continue to allow big box stores to remain open, yet close our small businesses? I am confident these businesses can adhere to safe practices. Hair stylists can control who sits in their chairs, nail artists can wear masks and gloves, retail stores can restrict their capacity and require social distancing. PLEASE do something!!</p>
04/23/2020 07:07 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	MRs Deanna Utt	Release the data for each county and let each county decide to open based on the criteria set! Surry County is NOT Mecklenburg or Wake!
04/23/2020 07:07 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Heather Baker	We need to reopen NC. This is going to kill all of our small businesses that we have here in our great state!
04/23/2020 07:09 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Owner Christa Bercounas	ReOpenNC. The people of NC are suffering!. The cure is worse that the disease.
04/23/2020 07:10 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Jamie Snyder	The governor made a terrible decision today to extend the states stay at home order instead of lifting it and re-opening the economy while continuing other mitigation measures. Immediate action needs to be taken to reel him in and restore everyones rights while continuing to protect those most vulnerable.
04/23/2020 07:10 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Cyndy Bunn	It is past time for the state and the counties/cities to stop trampling people's God-given rights to decide how best to care for their own families, exercising their rights to practice religion, petition and protest, and make an honest living. The state has no right to declare large numbers of people "nonessential" and to destroy livelihoods with the stroke of a pen. People have been deprived of liberty and property without due process of law, on the basis of insufficient/absent data. People have been deprived of timely medical care for non-covid conditions. Graduate students have been shut out of their labs. The dying have been deprived of pastoral care. Families once on their way out of debt or into a healthy retirement have been needlessly ruined by state action, not by a virus. Stop the madness and return to limited, constitutional government immediately, with allowances for those who are medically fragile to be protected if they choose to continue isolation.
04/23/2020 07:13 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Gerald Tripp	The people of North Carolina are struggling. Small business owners cannot continue to be shut down while large corporate stores are allowed to open. Restaurants can not survive with a potential partial opening date set between 22nd and 29th of May. Sole proprietors who pay vast sums of money in income taxes and as yet are ineligible for any government benefit can not continue to survive. The governor is putting hard working citizens in food pantry lines while his and your salary does not change. It is time to end this shutdown and let free citizens be in charge of their own well being.
04/23/2020 07:21 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Robert Brass	<p>What about them?</p> <p>U.N. warns economic downturn could kill hundreds of thousands of children in 2020</p>

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			UNITED NATIONS (Reuters) - Hundreds of thousands of children could die this year due to the global economic downturn sparked by the coronavirus pandemic and tens of millions more could fall into extreme poverty as a result of the crisis, the United Nations warned on Thursday. https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-children-un-idUSKBN21Y2X7
04/23/2020 07:22 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Karen Spake	Thank you for supporting "stay at home" recommendations. The lives of all of us are important.
04/23/2020 07:26 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Jan Holsinger	PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE REOPEN NC NOW!!! Please don't wait until May!! We need to get back to work!!
04/23/2020 07:37 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr Jeff Staley	Enough is enough people are going broke, businesses are closing it is time to open up the state. The Governor decision ability is impaired by his loyalty to the Democrats and their desire to defeat Trump. The legislature must get involved.
04/23/2020 07:39 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Timothy Berry	The Governor is a dream killer...I've spent 5 years building a small business, thousands of dollars and two years going to college for training. #cooperkilledmydreams #cooperhatesmallbusiness
04/23/2020 07:42 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Lynne Ward	REOPEN NC IMMEDIATELY
04/23/2020 07:45 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs Rebecca Shoaf	Hospital stays are to FOUR times longer for covid patients with Vitamin D deficiency than those without. And the risk of death is significantly higher. When will parks and playgrounds be open for our children? Coronavirus isn't the plague or polio. Why should they continue to suffer to assuage the fear those who believe themselves at greater risk.
04/23/2020 07:46 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Shelly Johnson	It is time to reopen NC. As I am sure you are aware, the doomsday prediction of the COVID-19 models have been a complete bust, with many downward revisions being necessary from a death toll of 2.2 million in the US to, last I saw 60,000. I am very confident there will be many more deaths and incalculable collateral damage caused from the loss of jobs, children out of school unsupervised because parents have no one to care for them, patients having treatment and surgeries postponed, depression and suicide, etc. If certain groups are at higher risk, let's protect them by allowing those people to self quarantine, but let the rest of NC get back to work, school, and life. Respectfully yours, Shelly Johnson
04/23/2020 07:48 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency	Chrystal Eckard	#reopennc

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	Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group		
04/23/2020 07:50 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Reopen NC Jennifer Hura	Please reopen our small businesses!!! We are struggling and fearful of even more death and destruction if our economy continues to plummet!
04/23/2020 07:53 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Tammara Gardner	Under United States Constitution Amendments V and XIV, North Carolina Statutes § 40A-51, and related case law concerning inverse condemnation and regulatory takings, business owners who have been deprived of all economically beneficial use of their properties and barred from operating their businesses under Gov. Cooper's Executive Order No. 121, as extended by Executive Order 135, are entitled to due process of law and just compensation for the market value of their property. I am making this comment to request that your Committee issue guidance on how citizens of North Carolina can efficiently have such claims processed without having to resort to the courts. I appreciate your time.
04/23/2020 07:56 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Free Citizen of the USA Jenifer Linthicum	We the people demand that our citizen elected representatives revoke the unconstitutional executive orders by Roy Cooper! We demand our state be re-opened immediately with no delay. We have gone through every proper channel and are prepared to seek legal action against the state if our rights are not restored immediately! Tyranny has NO place in America!
04/23/2020 07:56 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Carolina Cooper	People are hurting out here in the real world and I am slowly losing my mind! The hospitals are not overrun and there is no reason we can't reopen. Roy Cooper is holding the whole state hostage to his political games. Please defend the Constitution that you took an oath to uphold and free us from this illegal house arrest.
04/23/2020 08:02 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Dr Donnie Lovette	Dear NC Legislators, These are difficult times for everyone, but especially for those individuals who feel that their government has ignored them. Today was a sad day for NC. It was sad because our Governor failed to give even a glimmer of hope to the suffering people he was elected to serve. I hate the fact that Governor Cooper has been called a "tyrant" and "king" by people in this state. If he had used wise judgment and started Phase 1 today, it would have been easier to accept. Instead, he gave no specific date to start the first phase and spoke as if the 2nd phase would not begin until end of May at best. What is also sad is the fact that our governor chose not to comply with the request of our General Assembly members. He failed to provide the specificity requested and instead made it clear that he alone would make the decision as to when the phases would proceed and would even roll them back if he deemed it necessary. If one looks at the data as I did today it is clear that one third of our positive cases came from nursing care centers and prisons and no matter how they attempt to display the numbers with uncertain data, the fact remains that out of 10 million people NC has had only 253 deaths. Furthermore, while more than 7000 have been infected with Covid-19, more than 600,000 of our good people are out of work and 10 million face an uncertain economic future. The suffering is not from the coronavirus, it is from a policy that is designed to protect us from a disease that has been proven to be fatal for only a few hundred people in our state. Dear leaders, please look at the data and

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			make a wise decision: 253 dead physically vs. millions suffering financially, and emotionally. The orders are destroying our state and the people in our state will never forget this. Please rescind the governor's order and rescue your people.
04/23/2020 08:03 PM	Economic Support Working Group	President Harold Merritt	Small business are going broke me included because of the Covid 19 bull. What the hell are you all doing we need to open and work before everyone goes broke. Cooper will never get re elected!
04/23/2020 08:06 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group		Reopen North Carolina ASAP
04/23/2020 08:13 PM	Education Working Group	Linda Brown	I am a child care worker. I continue to work Monday - Friday. We are doing everything and more to keep the children in our care and ourselves safe. Most People in NC are smart enough and care enough to follow the steps to protect each other. I believe a lot of this is political if it wasn't our churches would not be getting attacked for having met tings in their parking lots. The sell of Alcohol, and lottery tickets are not a necessity or essential for life. We can open the state back up and follow proper protocol while getting our economy back and stop damaging our economy.
04/23/2020 08:14 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	mr david willers	Please open NC this is unconstitutional.
04/23/2020 08:15 PM	Health Care Working Group	mr david willers	Please meet with governor cooper in person and allow for the public to witness and participate in the meeting. The Governor is abusing his power.
04/23/2020 08:16 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group		I am deeply disappointed in the extension of the North Carolina stay at home order. North Carolinians are hurting. They are hurting because of the stay at home order's devastating effect on the economy and mental health, which both have a direct effect on people's livelihoods. Earlier this week when I checked the local news, I saw that for every coronavirus case in NC, there are 125 unemployed North Carolinians. This is the crisis I urge you to focus on.
			Nothing should ever take our constitutional rights away. This is not a laughing matter, and these protestors are real people with real lives and families. The government's unemployment and stimulus checks cannot sustain our economy. Do the right thing.
04/23/2020 08:16 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms Linda Hughes	Open NC... In person voting, Voter ID
04/23/2020 08:18 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. william nesbitt	The continued shutdown of our state is outrageous & the arbitrary date of May 8th will further harm our economic recovery. The Governor's hypocritical exec order 121 is harming us much more than the virus itself! The governor who has been violating his own executive order by leaving the state to fundraise for his reelection campaign is now a

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			criminal by the terms of his own edict. Lock up the governor or free the people & reopen NC!
04/23/2020 08:20 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs Pamela Smith	Reopen NC now NOT May 8, June 8 or 2021!
04/23/2020 08:22 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Shauna Coster	I am extremely concerned about the irreparable harm being done to North Carolina's economy in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, especially with research emerging more and more that does not support the decision. North Carolinians are capable of following common sense, safe practices, without executive edicts, as we have with any other disease or virus. There is no doubt that the COVID-19 virus is a challenging issue; however, the removal of rights along with a 'one-size-fits-all' solution from the state executive branch are not acceptable.
04/23/2020 08:29 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Reopen NC Malissa Cottrell	The longer this goes on the worse things get. Gov. Cooper has overstepped his authority with this shut down. Read the Constitution! This is illegal!
04/23/2020 08:31 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Quarantine Restructuring	Let the strong, healthy and majority part of the herd back out into society and live our lives. We can keep things on course and thriving so that the elderly and compromised have a wonderful environment to rejoin after we achieve herd immunity and make North Carolina a safe space for them again! Staying in our homes is not the best or only way to support the weak and vulnerable. We need to steer the ship and be the rock nature intended us to be while making sure those at home get everything they need.
04/23/2020 08:33 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	mr steve elliott	Open the state...YOU are causing irreversible trauma by not allowing the state to ReOpen!
04/23/2020 08:39 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms Emily Rainey	Open up our state. This has gone on long enough. How many more people have to suffer before you see that the data does not support these measures!
04/23/2020 08:45 PM	Economic Support Working Group	A New Normal John Snyder	<p>I'm writing to advocate for lifting government restrictions. To be clear, I'm not advocating for an end to social distancing. North Carolina's people are intelligent. We recognize there is a new danger that requires new precautions. We can do that without added government regulation. What we need from you is information and guidance. We don't need a statewide ban or arbitrary "essential" classifications. We can stop the spread of the virus, and stop the protests, by giving the people information to make informed decisions.</p> <p>Emotions are running high. There is a lot at stake. For some it is health and for others it is their business or livelihood. Most of us are going to be somewhere on this spectrum. Let us make our own decisions based on our own values and needs.</p> <p>Ultimately, lifting restrictions doesn't force anyone to go outside that doesn't want to go</p>

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			<p>outside. It also doesn't force business owners to open if they feel they can't do so safely.</p> <p>Conversely, restrictions force people to stay inside who are comfortable with the risk and choose to go back to work. They keep businesses closed that can safely serve clients.</p> <p>Consider for a moment the steps we take to prevent foodborne illness in restaurants. We recognize the dangers and our health officials have established guidance and provide information about foodborne illness to help those restaurants mitigate risks. I'm not comparing food poisoning to COVID-19. I only want to demonstrate that we can do the right thing when we have information and guidance. We can get back on track with support instead of restrictions.</p> <p>Last, I'm concerned about the hospitals. I understand the concept of flattening the curve. In New Hanover County, we aren't anywhere close to stressing the hospital system. In fact, our hospital is experiencing a very serious financial strain. At very least, allow counties to roll back restrictions based on their conditions.</p> <p>We need to fight this virus by keeping the vulnerable protected and allowing our otherwise healthy adults to carry the load. We understand the risks and are ready to do our part. Lift these restrictions and let our people get back to business.</p>
04/23/2020 08:46 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs Angela Childers	We have met the guidelines put forth by the national task force. Move on to phase 1.
04/23/2020 08:49 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Julia Deltano	NC needs to open now! Our constitutional rights do not allow this. How can we support ourselves if we can not work???? It is not like anyone is offering to pay my bills or help me restart my business that has been shutdown. All the money that has been promised has not been received! When will Governor Cooper take his pay cut?
04/23/2020 08:51 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Betty Jones	Reopen NC now!! It is killing our small businesses!!!
04/23/2020 08:51 PM	Education Working Group	Operator/ Childcare Tina Locklear	Childcare operator.... As a first line worker/ childcare provider. I ask that you consider the childcare providers income. I work around the clock hrs taking care of our children. I ask that we also be recognized... I made a little more than 20 thousand last yr. another thing I would like to address notice that the centers get paid more than the CCH. Why is that? I'm constantly on my feet. As well as my co-workers. Also Having less ratio I'm able to work with my children more 1 on 1. I'm just curious
04/23/2020 08:52 PM	Health Care Working Group	Jessica Foy	New Hanover County has less than 10 COVID hospitalizations, effective 04/22. None of these patients are in ICU. The statewide Stay at Home order and closures were put in place to flatten the curve. Our hospitals are not overwhelmed. The governor and health experts have stated publicly that the curve has been flattened, yet the governor continues to move the goal post for reopening our state. It is time to reopen our state.
04/23/2020 08:59 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Carol Snow	Please reconsider and open businesses in NC on Apr 29.
04/23/2020 09:02 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs Diane Scott	I cannot believe they you are not allowing healthy people to go hungry and lose their livelihood due to your unconstitutional, draconian measures of keeping our economy shut down. REOPEN NC

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04/23/2020 09:03 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs. Brenda Mickey	North Carolina needs to go back to work. Stop all these restrictions now. Our rights as spelled out in the Constitution are being violated! Open North Carolina up to do business now. We need to change the law in order that the Governor cannot make these decisions without it being voted on by our governing body. One person should not have this much power!
04/23/2020 09:03 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Phyllis Tydings	Open NC fully now. There's no evidence or science that suggest social distancing or stay at home make any difference.
04/23/2020 09:03 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Timothy Miller	Please put relentless pressure on Governor Cooper to end his unconstitutional declaration of martial law! Thank you!
04/23/2020 09:07 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Open NC Stacey Simms	It's time to open all NC businesses. Let them implement the same guidelines that big chain stores are using. Everyday that this is prolonged it is killing dreams and operations of small business owners.
04/23/2020 09:07 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Jill Simpson	Open up NC on May 1st
04/23/2020 09:08 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Dr. Kristy Tart-Bryan	The people of the state of NC can not survive this continued stay at home order and dragging this shutdown out for months on end. I beg you to use your power to bring a vote to the floor to strip the power to apply this EO from Gov. Cooper. This is unconstitutional and is in no way justifiable based on the data. Your electorate is watching, and they are not happy. Do what you know you must. Stand up for the people who elected you.
04/23/2020 09:12 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Reopen NC Tracie McCabe	We must reopen North Carolina immediately! The statistics do not support the irresponsible measures being unconstitutionally dictated by Gov. Cooper. We are not NY. Our hospitals are not overwhelmed. Let the vulnerable stay at home. Those who want to get back to work should be allowed to do so!
04/23/2020 09:13 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Linda Coombs	I am so devastated I can't find the words. What Cooper laid out today was so hopeless. His plan to have these three phases that don't even begin until May 8th is pure insanity. We won't even be close to opening until July and that's best case according to what he laid out today. We can't live like this. I pray others don't feel as hopeless as I do tonight. NC will never bounce back from this if you let this happen. We needed a reasonable opening plan, not something this dramatic. He is also trying to change our voter laws while we are dealing with this. It's unthinkable and immoral no matter what do not allow him to steal this coming election. After what he has done we will fight whatever we have to, we will go to those booths and vote him and everyone who failed us out!!
04/23/2020 09:15 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs. Julie Roach	Open up North Carolina! Your running us into the ground! You have taken our rights away!! The Governor is being irresponsible and so are the law makers! You WILL not be re-elected if you comply with the Governor! He is controlling all of us! Including you!!!!!!
04/23/2020 09:15 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Chris Mason	We need to get this state back to working safely. Peoples lives are being ruined and the stats coming out now are not nearly as bad as initially stated. Our rights should not be taken away and that is what is happening right now.
04/23/2020 09:18 PM	Economic Support	Wendy Konig	I was disheartened to see a supposed possible reopen May 8 was actually at least two

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	Working Group		<p>weeks later. It feels like we are being lied too</p> <p>Over 7k beds available, 600 some used. I thought we needed to stay under the curve to avoid overtaxing the medical system. We need to open ASAP. People are suffering. Lack of medical care (ask some doctors), businesses closing, so much devastation. All for something that has a much lower death rate than originally stated AND we have much lower numbers than expected under a perfect scenario. Please open ASAP. The unintended consequences are devastating</p>
04/23/2020 09:21 PM	Health Care Working Group	Open NC Roy Coggin	Open N.C.
04/23/2020 09:24 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Open NC Brandi Johnson	Open NC for small beaches and public beach access. The economic and psychological downfall of this will be bigger than this virus with a 98% CURE rate.
04/23/2020 09:35 PM	Economic Support Working Group	ReopenNC NOW Stephen Culbreth	I was not born in China, I have never lived in China and I do not intend to start now! USANC Patriot!
04/23/2020 09:36 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Jennifer Dorton	I was happy to abide by the stay at home order until the end of April; however, the extension into May, and no transparent plan to open the state, have me questioning elected officials on both sides of the aisle. At this point, I will have to drive to SC or GA to conduct business as those states are willing to open back up to business. The sooner elected officials realize that we need to get back to work, the better. You can not keep the state shutdown in an effort to support a nanny government. Viruses by nature are difficult to contain. A one month effort to flatten the curve was just that - an effort to reduce hospital admissions. But at no point was the stay at home order supposed to be an indefinite way of life. Lift the restrictions in a controlled manner and allow people to determine acceptable risk for themselves. Let's get the state moving forward again.
04/23/2020 09:39 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. Eddie Hanline III	The state of NC is being severely damaged by the governors orders. As a business owner, it is to the detriment of all of us that no real plan in place to reopening. The DHHS director said that if a test comes back false but they have symptoms - we should presume it's a case. That's ok for medical research purposes - however, not for deciding whether or not to open the economy. Smart social distancing, face masks, and hand cleaning has worked in every other part of the world including other states. There is no reason why we need to be told to stay home like this - neither is it constitutional. You need to step in and vote on these gubernatorial orders.
04/23/2020 09:40 PM	Economic Support Working Group	mrs chelsea le chatelier	open up nc! small businesses need to open and get people back to work NOW.
04/23/2020 09:40 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Reopen NC Kelli Mickey	We need to reopen NC and let people work! This is unconstitutional to ban people from making a living!!! I am self employed and have not gotten any unemployment. Let us work!
04/23/2020 09:42 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Jessica Theiss	<p>If I recall correctly, the original goal of a state lockdown was to not overwhelm our healthcare system, and to protect our hardworking healthcare workers and staff. Based on data as of today, our hospital capacity is just fine. I'm so relieved for our doctors, nurses and larger community that they have not been overwhelmed.</p> <p>We must continue to work to protect them and our community. But, we must also be concerned about all members of our community. I am also concerned about those who are not able to work, and now are worried about providing food and shelter to their</p>

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			<p>families. I volunteer with these members of our community. I see them at home, unable to work and provide for their families.</p> <p>700K unemployed in our state.</p> <p>7,312 cases of coronavirus in our state out of 10 million residents.</p> <p>We must find a balance.</p> <p>We can begin to re-open our state, with mitigation efforts in place. We can continue to social distance. We can reduce capacity at business. We can let people choose to work with protective equipment. We can recommend that the physically vulnerable continue to stay home.</p> <p>We can do both.</p> <p>No matter when we re-open, the virus will still be here. It will not just disappear. We delay the inevitable spread by continuing to lockdown. We must prepare for it. We must work to slow the spread. We must find a balance.</p>
04/23/2020 09:45 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms Nixole McMillen	I am beyond mad that Cooper is holding the people of NC "hostage" for MONTHS!! Our state is barley being impacted by COVID. We have 10.5 million citizens and (currently) have just over 7,100 cases. Continuing to lock down our state indefinitely (because no one knows when we will satisfy Dr Cohens metrics) over 7,000 cases is beyond ridiculous. Cooper and Cohen do not care about our economy or small businesses. Please help us!!! #ReopenNC NOW!!
04/23/2020 09:48 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Michele Wiederspiel	This extended shutdown is not warranted with our state numbers. Stop the economic devastation
04/23/2020 09:48 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Constitutional Rights Meleah Allard	I am very upset that my First Amendment rights are being impeded! For the Governor to hinder churches from being able to meet and people to be able to earn a living (for any reason) is WRONG! There are no caveats to the Bill of Rights. He is wrong. We expect you to correct his wrong. Elections are looming.
04/23/2020 09:50 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Gerald Jeffris	The current stay-at-home/lockdown policies implemented by the state of North Carolina (now extended to May 8, 2020) are having significant negative economic and health effects on the population of the state. People have been going without pay, in some cases for as long as 6 weeks, and the uncertainty of the situation has caused further depression of their income prospects for the coming months. Consider, for example, people who work as contractors, who in many cases cannot easily apply for unemployment benefits, or students who need a part time job to support their studies, or people who need to rent properties, but cannot because they don't even know if they can count on local activities or income going forward. These are just but a few of the many examples that could be cited of people who are facing severe economic risks. Studies of COVID19 have shown there is a clearly defined risk group (older people and people with underlying conditions) that can be protected while allowing the population that is at lower risk (represented by a large majority) to resume economic activities. It is time to implement that common sense strategy as soon as possible to begin to mitigate and reverse the already devastating

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			economic effects that have been caused by the suspension of activities that is currently in place.
04/23/2020 09:51 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs Katherine Pope	I would like to request that the state opened May 1st. Social distancing can be put into place and workplace precautions however, the state needs to reopen the economy. I have lost my furloughed primary care physician and can not participate in needed physical therapy because it is associated with a small pilates studio. This is taking a toll on peoples health in ways other than Covid-19. I also have not been able to attend my church for multiple weeks. This is a gross over reaching order by the governor that is not acceptable.
04/23/2020 09:53 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Reopen ASAP Rebecca Spann	Reopen the state ASAP
04/23/2020 09:53 PM	Economic Support Working Group	John	It's time to reopen North Carolina. Seriously why are we letting Government Cooper get away with this. Fix it!!!!
04/23/2020 09:54 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Nicole Lamb	Open North Carolina this is insane! People are dying of starvation and other things! Open it up NOW!
04/23/2020 09:54 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Michelle Dufay	I am stunned that the Governor has extended the lockdown until May 8 and with that he has extended the hell in which we all find ourselves. This is not living; we are in a state of simply existing, waiting to start living again. Meanwhile, with each day, we worry about all the businesses being destroyed and the inevitable breakdown of society that will come with economic devastation. We MUST open NC completely and immediately.
04/23/2020 09:54 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Small business owner Tracy Evans	It is time to reopen NC up for business. Let the people decide if they feel comfortable supporting their local small businesses. I have been self employed for 35 years and never been put in a situation where someone said, you cannot work, you must stay home and if you do work we are going to put you in jail, fine you and or take your license away. You might as well kill me, you are destroying my life, my business and financially crippling me. Also let me just ask, have any of you had to call any of your utility companies to say I am not able to earn a paycheck because of COVID 19? Well let me just say I have NEVER paid a bill late. My credit is excellent. They say they will work with you till we get through this...and a week later they start texting you asking for the remainder of your balance. I thought ok, I can make it till April 30th and then I will work 7 days a week to get caught up and now I cannot open back up till mid May or until June... I have polices in place one client at a time no overlap of people ,the same sanitizer the hospital uses for cleaning. Masks are available for any one that needs one before entering my business. Oh did I mention I ordered a non contact medical grade digital scanning thermometer so I can check their temperature before they enter my salon. Thank you very much Tracy Evans owner and operator
04/23/2020 09:58 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Jennifer Lee	This shutdown is causing increased domestic violence and child abuse cases, and family businesses are being destroyed, leaving many families with NO FOOD or means to pay

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04/23/2020 10:02 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr Frank Shults	their bills. Please let ALL businesses reopen! ReopenNC is vital to the future of this state. You need to take it seriously. We are.
04/23/2020 10:05 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Kristy Massie	Gov. Cooper's extension of the SAH order as well as his "plan" for eventual reopening are completely impractical and a terrible hardship for small/ non-essential businesses, not to mention un-Constitutional. While the Constitutionality has not yet been debated in court, it soon will, and we all know how that will go. How is it possible that 10.5 million people are held hostage because of 400ish in the hospital. This is absurd. Lawmakers who speak for North Carolinians need to accurately advocate for us. 1000+ showed up last week in Raleigh to make our wishes known. This will only continue to grow. Reject and override Gov. Cooper's order. It's bad for business, bad for the state, bad for the people of North Carolina.
04/23/2020 10:08 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Cindy Higgins	You cannot continue to hold us hostage by NOT allowing us to work. We don't want NC unemployment money, we want to go back to work and support our families! My daughter is unable to close on 42 acres (a dream of her and her fiance's) in North Carolina because she is now on unemployment, she has worked for 12 years at the salon and now they will not allow her to close on the land, the is OUTRAGEOUS!! Open up North Carolina!!!
04/23/2020 10:09 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Joy Blount	I really do NOT understand why everything is still shut down. There have been on average 300-500 hospitalizations daily. There are 10.5 million people in North Carolina. Our hospitals are NOT in danger. The NC legislature is destroying people's lives for the sake of a tiny potential what-if. This stay-at-home order is completely unhealthy for the mind, the soul and the economy. It needs to END!!
04/23/2020 10:21 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ashley Smith	Reopen NC. We cannot sustain a continued shutdown!!
04/23/2020 10:24 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Pam Crowson	We need a NO PHASED ROLLOUT for NC !! This state needs to open May 8, no later. There are people who are going to lose their homes ... their livelihood! I challenge the general assembly to please bring legislation forward to have this executive order stripped and dropped , Cooper stripped of his power and have this done by roll call vote brought to the floor. We need to know you stand for us, the people of NC . We cannot do this phased roll out! Please help us
04/23/2020 10:30 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mr Aaron McClellan	Fact 1: The overwhelming majority of people do not have any significant risk of dying from COVID-19. Fact 2: Protecting older, at-risk people eliminates hospital overcrowding. We can learn about hospital utilization from data from New York City, the hotbed of COVID-19 with more than 34,600 hospitalizations to date. For those under 18 years of age, hospitalization from the virus is 0.01 percent per 100,000 people; for those 18 to 44 years old, hospitalization is 0.1 percent per 100,000. Even for people ages 65 to 74, only 1.7 percent were hospitalized. Of 4,103 confirmed COVID-19 patients with symptoms bad enough to seek medical care, Dr. Leora Horwitz of NYU Medical Center concluded "age is

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			<p>far and away the strongest risk factor for hospitalization." Even early WHO reports noted that 80 percent of all cases were mild, and more recent studies show a far more widespread rate of infection and lower rate of serious illness. Half of all people testing positive for infection have no symptoms at all. The vast majority of younger, otherwise healthy people do not need significant medical care if they catch this infection.</p> <p>Fact 3: Vital population immunity is prevented by total isolation policies, prolonging the problem. We know from decades of medical science that infection itself allows people to generate an immune response — antibodies — so that the infection is controlled throughout the population by "herd immunity." Indeed, that is the main purpose of widespread immunization in other viral diseases — to assist with population immunity. In this virus, we know that medical care is not even necessary for the vast majority of people who are infected. It is so mild that half of infected people are asymptomatic, shown in early data from the Diamond Princess ship, and then in Iceland and Italy. That has been falsely portrayed as a problem requiring mass isolation. In fact, infected people without severe illness are the immediately available vehicle for establishing widespread immunity. By transmitting the virus to others in the low-risk group who then generate antibodies, they block the network of pathways toward the most vulnerable people, ultimately ending the threat. Extending whole-population isolation would directly prevent that widespread immunity from developing.</p> <p>Fact 4: People are dying because other medical care is not getting done due to hypothetical projections. Critical health care for millions of Americans is being ignored and people are dying to accommodate "potential" COVID-19 patients and for fear of spreading the disease. Most states and many hospitals abruptly stopped "nonessential" procedures and surgery. That prevented diagnoses of life-threatening diseases, like cancer screening, biopsies of tumors now undiscovered and potentially deadly brain aneurysms. Treatments, including emergency care, for the most serious illnesses were also missed. Cancer patients deferred chemotherapy. An estimated 80 percent of brain surgery cases were skipped. Acute stroke and heart attack patients missed their only chances for treatment, some dying and many now facing permanent disability.</p> <p>Fact 5: We have a clearly defined population at risk who can be protected with targeted measures. The recent Stanford University antibody study now estimates that the fatality rate if infected is likely 0.1 to 0.2 percent, a risk far lower than previous World Health Organization estimates that were 20 to 30 times higher and that motivated isolation policies. In New York City, an epicenter of the pandemic with more than one-third of all U.S. deaths, the rate of death for people 18 to 45 years old is 0.01 percent, or 11 per 100,000 in the population. On the other hand, people aged 75 and over have a death rate 80 times that. For people under 18 years old, the rate of death is zero per 100,000. Of all fatal cases in New York state, two-thirds were in patients over 70 years of age; more than 95 percent were over 50 years of age; and about 90 percent of all fatal cases had an underlying illness. Of 6,570 confirmed COVID-19 deaths fully investigated for underlying</p>

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			<p>conditions to date, 6,520, or 99.2 percent, had an underlying illness. If you do not already have an underlying chronic condition, your chances of dying are small, regardless of age. And young adults and children in normal health have almost no risk of any serious illness from COVID-19.</p> <p>The overwhelming evidence all over the world consistently shows that a clearly defined group — older people and others with underlying conditions — is more likely to have a serious illness requiring hospitalization and more likely to die from COVID-19. Knowing that, it is a commonsense, achievable goal to target isolation policy to that group, including strictly monitoring those who interact with them. Nursing home residents, the highest risk, should be the most straightforward to systematically protect from infected people, given that they already live in confined places with highly restricted entry.</p> <p>The appropriate policy, based on fundamental biology and the evidence already in hand, is to institute a more focused strategy like some outlined in the first place: Strictly protect the known vulnerable, self-isolate the mildly sick and open most workplaces and small businesses with some prudent large-group precautions. This would allow the essential socializing to generate immunity among those with minimal risk of serious consequence, while saving lives, preventing overcrowding of hospitals and limiting the enormous harms compounded by continued total isolation. Let's stop underemphasizing empirical evidence while instead doubling down on hypothetical models. Facts matter.</p> <p>Scott W. Atlas, MD, is the David and Joan Traitel Senior Fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution and the former chief of neuroradiology at Stanford University Medical Center.</p>
04/23/2020 10:33 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Georgia Strickland	Reopen NC now. The governor's stay at home order is a violation of our constitutional rights. This order is destroying the NC economy and we may never recover. Please reopen NC now before all hope is gone.
04/23/2020 10:37 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Paula Crotts	<p>Copied from a friend..... A thought provoking read:</p> <p>I was reading some posts for and against reopening the country. One was talking about being selfish and it got me to thinking.</p> <p>There are those wanting to reopen yet they're being classified as selfish. There are those healthy people who rely on all kinds of people to supply them while they sit safe at home for the foreseeable future. Isn't that being selfish too?</p> <p>You expect your garbage to be picked up, you expect the grocery store to be open so you can get milk, you expect truck drivers to supply the stores, you expect farmers, meatpackers, fruit and vegetable pickers all to keep food in that grocery store.</p> <p>You expect Amazon to still ship all the things you're ordering while you sit at home shopping. You expect the delivery driver to leave it on your doorstep. You expect your phone to work, your power to stay on, and your mail to show up rain, sleet, or shine. And most important, you expect the doctors and nurses to be there if you need them although many of them across the country have been furloughed because their units and services have been shut down while the entire system focuses only on COVID19.</p>

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			<p>The whole premise of shelter in place is based on the arrogant idea that others must risk their health so you can protect yours. There is nothing virtuous about ignoring the largely invisible army required to allow people to shelter in place.</p> <p>I know there are some of you may be screaming mad about what I just said but stop and really think about what is allowing you to stay safe in your home.</p> <p>I truly believe that with some common sense on my part, I could easily go back to life as it was. I want to go to restaurants, I want to shop at the little store just up the road.</p> <p>And yes, I could catch COVID-19. I could also catch the flu or a cold. I could get run over by a bus. I could get struck by lightning. We take risks everyday. If you choose to stay home, that is absolutely your choice. And please don't start screaming at me about how I'll just spread it.</p> <p>Why are you worried? You won't get it because you're staying in your home. Are you going to shelter in place every time a new strand of the flu happens?</p> <p>The entire purpose of the shelter-in-place idea was to let the healthcare system to prepare and to flatten the curve. It was not to eradicate the virus (impossible).</p> <p>Our economy can't withstand much more of this. If our economy collapses, so will the rest of the world's. If that happens, you will see the rise of tyrants.</p> <p>I absolutely don't want people to die...from COVID or anything else. I want people to live.</p> <p>But sheltering in place is not living.</p>
04/23/2020 10:49 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Debbie Cromartie	<p>As Margaret Thatcher once said, 'The trouble with socialism is that eventually you run out of other people's money'. That time is almost here. The healthcare industry, as we all know is at the front of the battle against this virus, has furloughed employees. If this industry is suffering from the economic shutdown, is there any hope for other industries? This should be a wake-up call. The government does not sell a product; its revenue stream is taxes. If businesses keep closing doors, less people working, less taxes. You as politicians should know this, but I have my doubts. The states' funds are dwindling, and it is only a matter of time before the federal government runs out of funds. What will we do then? We will become Venezuela. Is this what you want? Answer me! You do work for your constituents, and for several weeks, we have been instructing you to do your job. Stop Cooper. STAND UP AND DO YOUR JOB! Change the state constitution; change the laws, STOP Cooper. Here is a little secret North Carolinians know, this virus did not shut down the economy. Tyrannical Cooper and you lazy politicians, still receiving wages, shut down this economy.</p>
04/23/2020 10:55 PM	Health Care Working Group	LINDA AND PATRICK LARKIN	<p>Just want to say THANK YOU and for you to continue to not do as the mob is demanding. Make informed decisions, as you've been doing.</p>
04/23/2020 10:56 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Pamela Andler	<p>Open the state!! The numbers do not correspond with extending the stay at home order!! People are essential!! People need to work!! Open small business now including our restaurant bars and hair salons!!!!</p>

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04/23/2020 10:57 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Josh Monday	<p>Unemployment is going to kill far more than covid! Poverty and hunger are real</p> <p>This continued shutdown will not be forgotten in November. There are no facts that support your action or inactions. 0.002% have died and 5% are unemployed.</p>
04/23/2020 11:24 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Clyde Bordwine	<p>Open North Carolina!! Let us work!!</p>
04/23/2020 11:41 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Amelia Zytka	<p>These comments pertain to the Governor's press conference today 4/23/2020.</p> <p>The people of North Carolina, are protesting the stay at home order because it violates our constitutional rights. Our country's constitution was written in such a way as to avoid a hostile takeover from the government. We feel that this is what has happened and we will fight for our rights as citizens tirelessly.</p> <p>There are a number of issues with the Press Conference today.</p> <p>Issue 1: The use of the phrase "COVID-like symptoms". This implies that any ailment resembling COVID-19 will be diagnosed as COVID-19. The Governor and Dr. Cohen confirmed this when she said that their guidance to the hospitals has been if it looks like COVID-19, but the test is negative, to still diagnose as COVID-19. Since there are dozens of illnesses with many of the same symptoms it is irresponsible to purposely misdiagnose a patient and treat them for a disease they do not have. This will increase the number of deaths among our population.</p> <p>Issue 2: Dr. Cohen contradicted herself when she said we need to see a downward of trajectory of new cases and then in the next slide she stated a sustained leveling is sufficient. She needs to clarify what that means.</p> <p>Issue 3: The Governor said he has a plan to restart NC's economy, but did not elaborate at all. He did inform us that stimulus and unemployment benefits is the way forward. The issue with government handouts, is that they require taxes. With record unemployment rates across the nation where does the Governor think this money is going to come from? If no one is earning a paycheck, then taxes will not get paid and stimulus and unemployment benefits will not be possible. Does Governor Cooper realize that unemployment and poverty kills people too, not to mention increased suicide rates due to serious mental health conditions that at the moment are going untreated as a result of the stay at home order?</p> <p>Issue 4: In the real world, we have to back up our data with facts as well as supporting evidence from multiple different sources to verify our point. Never once did Dr. Cohen or Governor Cooper name even a single source for their data points. It could be they have many peer reviewed sources, but without the transparency of this information, the data and graphs appear fabricated. The Governor mentioned that they receive reporting from different labs. Which labs are reporting to the Governor? The people of North Carolina deserve to know this data is not made up. It is irresponsible to keep this information</p>

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			<p>secret.</p> <p>Issue 5: Dr. Cohen and Governor Cooper site each other as sources, but nobody else is mentioned. This makes it appear as though they are the only two people making decisions for an entire state. That is not the way our government system is set up and the fact that it appears this way is unacceptable.</p> <p>Issue 6: Governor Cooper says he is speaking with members of the business community on how best to get the economy up and running again. What members is he conferring with and are they any left? Many businesses have had to shut down and many more will go bankrupt if we do not reopen the economy. This is a critical and much more serious situation than the coronavirus. These people do not have more time to wait.</p> <p>Summary Currently, our economy is destroyed and our rights obliterated. Staying home is not protecting the people of North Carolina, in fact it is putting them in more danger. When did our primary concern become stopping people from getting sick? People will get sick and die no matter how many restrictions are placed on us. People have been destroyed by the stay at home order and the severe draconian restrictions placed on us. We are not allowed to work, school or church. We have been isolated from our communities and the very aspects that gave our life meaning and value. We have lost our jobs and our livelihoods. Many of us are facing homelessness as we cannot pay our mortgages or bills due to lack of a paycheck and delays in unemployment benefits (benefits that will not cover our expenses). Lack of employment for many means a loss of health care benefits. Depression and anxiety, serious mental ailments with often deadly consequences are left untreated because we have been banned from our healthcare facilities. Perhaps Governor Cooper believes he is doing right by the people of this great state. If that is the case, then he is practically and morally out of touch with his constituents. We beg him to open his heart to realize his stay at home order has hurt and destroyed many more people than it has saved.</p>
04/23/2020 11:42 PM	Education Working Group	Heidi Bell	Please continue to have schools closed, however I would suggest having summer break start early, at least for students. Unfortunately I have seen no plan that fully address equity in virtual and remote learning. The only way to make it more equitable is to have all students begin summer break as soon as possible. I'm a public school teacher in Durham and I know many families are unable to access or use materials. There are families that are stressed and overwhelmed. This would be a major relief to these families and students that will undoubtedly get further behind versus their peers that have access to all learning materials.
04/23/2020 11:54 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Joyce Deal	Our 1st Amendment guarantees Americans certain rights. Our current governor is VIOLATING our rights and we will not stand for it. The data that our governor is using is not accurate - we know that many people are dying of other causes and COVID19 is falsely being out on their death certificates. We know that we are being lied to by our government officials. We refuse to become prisoners in our own homes. Stop destroying our economy and open up our state NOW.
04/23/2020 11:58 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Jason Peetz	We will have to deal with this virus at some point in our near future. "Stay at home" orders are not going to eliminate the virus...they have only given us time to increase our

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			healthcare capacity. NC is nowhere near the epicenter NY and NJ are, so there is no credible data to support continued lockdown measures to this degree. An approach more similar to Florida would be appropriate for NC. Put our efforts into protecting the most vulnerable (ages 65 & up account for more than 70% of deaths with underlying health issues being a significant factor in the overwhelming majority of cases). Use testing in these vulnerable areas (like nursing homes) to reveal possible asymptomatic staff who could be unknowingly infecting fragile populations. Open up our businesses because a huge part of our work force is of the age that is statistically at lower risk and recommend more stringent measures for the most vulnerable. Don't punish small business and the entire economy to make a policy decision that has such a devastating impact on so many. My family counts on our business for the livelihood of a family of five. Allow our businesses to follow sanitation guidelines that will be beneficial to the public and get the economy headed in the right direction now.
04/24/2020 12:10 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mister Frank Garrick	Dear NCGA, please end this lockdown now! It is unsustainable, it is unsustainable for North Carolina. We don't want a phased plan. We don't want handouts. We are all willing to send back all government assistance! We are hard-working Americans who stand for Liberty and the right to earn a living. Emphasis on earn a living, no handouts! We want to earn a living, open all businesses now! Thank you for your consideration.
04/24/2020 12:11 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr Josh Menold	By denying Americans the right to chose for themselves if they want to risk illness you are denying basic freedoms and you are calling us dumb als if and when challenged we always as Americans rise to the challenge. Put the rules out there and watch us invent and creat ways to make all of this work!! We can do both if you let us!!!!
04/24/2020 12:50 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs Lisa Todd	Run forest run. Reopen NC I will not abide by the orders to destroy our state when 7% of hospital beds are occupied in the entire state.
04/24/2020 12:53 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Reopen NC Mark McManus	The time to open our economy has passed. Staying closed any longer serves zero purpose except to hurt families and businesses.
04/24/2020 12:54 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Heather McManus	less than 1% of the population of 10.5 million people in NC have died from this virus. Lift the stay at home order immediately.
04/24/2020 01:04 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Sabrina Waters	Please overrule Gov. Cooper and allow individual counties/municipalities to move to stage 1 at their own pace. This is unfair to the rural counties of our state in particular! Many counties have 0-10 cases of COVID.
04/24/2020 01:15 AM	Education Working Group	Mr. Gregg Sinderson	Please override Gov Cooper's veto of bill for teacher and principal pay raises for 19-20 school year. Or use one time money for 19-20 teacher pay raises
04/24/2020 01:21 AM	Education Working Group	Mr. Gregg Sinderson	Where did all the money come from for \$\$\$ for technology, summer "jumpstart", etc if it wasn't a priority before the pandemic. \$10 M for NCVPS???? Sometime the best thing is to do nothing!

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04/24/2020 01:37 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. James Keller	Dems knows they will not win by normalcy, june 2020 is a runoff, demonrat king cooper extended until all voting is subverted to mail in votes, now nc leg get off your kiester and on your feet and get into this fight for ALL OUR RIGHTS TO STOP THIS EVIL KING COOPER PLANS AND AGENDA GOALS ! https://www.vote411.org/north-carolina?gclid=CjwKCAjw-YT1BRAFEiwAd2WRtidXP90EIdFgt0OSfFkIVIF5VE8PY2E8TnY0PNLktAhwyrLgi5B_kxoCdBEQAvD_BwE
04/24/2020 02:03 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	End the shut down! Jessica Gray	Release NC from being held hostage! This is ridiculous! You are ruining the lives of so many people. Does not one of you have a conscience in the political realm? You are forcing our Country towards a major depression. You people aren't fools. Open our State back up. The people who believe in the freedom of our Nation outnumber you and we will not be silenced!
04/24/2020 03:03 AM	Economic Support Working Group	H G	Get the beaches back up and running for people to fish and sun bath and sit the economy down there will not survive we can still all use social distancing to fish and everything else not that hard
04/24/2020 04:54 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Theresa Whitehurst	Congratulations!! You're part of the select and chosen few whose jobs have been deemed essential and you continue to get paid. IRONICALLY, your pay is provided by those who you have shut down and laid off. DO YOUR JOB!!! Uphold our rights granted by the constitution, strip Gov Cooper of this rogue power of exec order and REOPEN NC no later than May 1!!! Many,many, many lives depend on it!! Thank you.
04/24/2020 05:08 AM	Economic Support Working Group	ashley allen	Reopen NC ASAP Cooper is abusing his power!!!! This is ridiculous!!!! Stop stalling
04/24/2020 05:08 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Amanda Osborne	NC needs to reopen. This stay at home order is a violation of our freedom and is causing poverty, suicide, domestic violence and substance abuse
04/24/2020 05:39 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Reopen NC Chelsea Sorrell	PLEASE reopen NC - the numbers of positive cases/deaths do not support our continued closed state! Especially when these deaths are added to covid totals when they clearly die from an unrelated cause. We don't want to be taken care of - we don't want stimulus checks.... we want to take care of our families on our own as we had before without ANY help from the government! We've got this... Gov. Cooper, if you'd like to keep your job (because it isn't looking good for you) let us get back to it and QUIT ruining our state!!! Thanks!
04/24/2020 05:40 AM	Economic Support Working Group	NC Wineries John Byrd	There is no reason wineries across the state could not reopen on a limited basis like the state of Georgia Your killing the tourism industry and forcing many to leave the state to go vacation elsewhere - Yadkin Valley needs to open up
04/24/2020 05:53 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs Jean Lampley	Do your jobs!!! The people of NC want NC open now! Overturn cooper's order!
04/24/2020 06:10 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Rodney Swarms	Please reconsider opening up the State April 30th as you originally agreed. Allow people the freedom we are born with as United States Citizens. We the people are smart enough

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04/24/2020 06:11 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Luisa Caverly	<p>to use common sense through this COVID-19 pandemic. We do not need government micromanaging our lives now or ever. This is still the United States of America, home of the FREE and land of the brave.</p> <p>Governor Cooper proves again that he is playing politics and cares nothing about the hard-working people that are unable to earn a living during this shutdown. It was announced that each state has more than enough test kits to go into Phase 1. Why is it being postponed in NC? Based on what science is he making his decision? People are unable to pay their bills, feed their families, get unemployment checks or PPE. Does he want everyone to starve and become dependent on the government?</p> <p>He has proven that this is political. He has done nothing to help the people suffering - all the while collecting his pay on the backs of the taxpayers. He has given no dates. Our COVID numbers are low. Our hospitals are empty. People sick of anything but COVID aren't being taken care of. Medical personnel are being furloughed. He knows this and yet plays the supreme ruler. This is NOT being done for the good of the people of NC.</p> <p>I urge you to put legislation in place that will actually help the people of NC get back to work. This cannot continue and must stop. Stop the rolling goal posts - based on his actions so far, he will never be ready to say we're ready to go to Phase 1 and then move on.</p>
04/24/2020 06:22 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. Hal Hardison	Governor Roy Copper is deliberately trying to destroy President Trumps economy. Republicans need to fight him on this. The people of NC are hurting and need to return to work.
04/24/2020 06:40 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Joan Hall	<p>Why are the counties of NC being punished for the cities not following cooper' s shutdown ?</p> <p>Why is nc being sued for 1 million errors on our voter rolls?</p>
04/24/2020 06:46 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Janet McDougal	It is not acceptable to live under a tyrannical leader and have our liberties stripped away. The Constitution never said we would be free from sickness but gives us the right to work and worship. In Lincoln county we have only 10 active cases and thousands of suffering people out of work. The governors plan will bring devastation and has already brought despair to so many. Please deem all businesses essential. Please take back the power and give it back to the people.
04/24/2020 06:50 AM	Economic Support Working Group	MS Crystal Duty	The Governments job is to uphold the constitution, not to keep us safe. REOPEN NC
04/24/2020 06:55 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Fawn Alfrey	Open our state. The entire reason for the lockdown was to not have our hospitals overrun. Are they? I drove to 3 hospitals yesterday and they are all ghost towns. Quit changing your reasons for this lockdown. You are destroying personal freedoms and ruining far more lives than the covid19 would have. Start phase 1 NOW. I can't wait to vote in November!
04/24/2020 07:00 AM	Economic Support	Kristin Terry	We need to reopen this state. It is time to stand up to the overreach of Governor Cooper's

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	Working Group		orders. Everyone should be able to go back to work. The proposed phased roll out is unacceptable, the proposed phases are too long and allow for continued government control of our constitutional rights.
04/24/2020 07:16 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. Michael Atwood	To the General Assembly Members Yesterday Roy Cooper Announced further extension of the stay at home order and implied further restrictions for 8-12 weeks are headed our way. He nor the NCHHS addressed any of the major discrepancies with their April 6th models and data that were used to justify the extending the stay at home order thru the end of April. His official press release then stated that the key justification they were using on April 6th was that without stay at home orders there would be 750,000 cases in NC on June 1, with the stay at home order it would be contained to 250,000 resulting in a reasonable chance that hospitals wouldn't be overwhelmed. As we are sitting here at ~7,500 cases with slow increase how can we remotely consider 250,000 is even possible now? How can they be off by a factor of 10 on the key principal they used for their justification and not even mention this or think that we would not notice this? These questions need to be asked to Roy Cooper and the NCHHS, the media won't ask them. Please Help Us. End this Madness now he will continue to move the goalposts. You must take action to remove his executive authority by any means necessary.
04/24/2020 07:22 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Cynthia Kangers	ReopenNC!!!
04/24/2020 07:28 AM	Education Working Group	Child care teacher Antionette Richards	I am a child care worker and I do not have health insurance. During all of this my center has been open. We don't have mask to protect outselve from those covid 19. Pkus social distance can't not be practice. We are taking care if kids with cough, run big nose everyday putting ourselves in danger. We need pay for this and money in place for child care worker to be able to afford health insurance.
04/24/2020 07:30 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Anne Krishnan	We are still in the height of a pandemic. I cannot imagine returning to any semblance of re-opening right now. Please act responsibly for all the people of NC, not just the noisy few.
04/24/2020 07:34 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Lorna Lueck	Gov Cooper has overreacted his authority with extending stay at home. Nc is able to manage the cases without the restrictions. The damage being done is worse than what we are trying to accomplish.
04/24/2020 07:35 AM	Education Working Group	Do NOT REOPEN NC Nitya Fiorentino	Please do not reopen NC. A resurgence of Covid would cost more lives and make the economic impact greater.
04/24/2020 07:42 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Anthony Baldwin	It is imperative that NC reopens for business. Neither the Governor nor any office holder be paid a penny until every North Carolinian with a job can go back to work if they choose to do so. The threat of remaining CLOSED is far greater than the threat of reopening. Those in high risk categories should be allowed to stay home and have job protection for up to 180 days after their business reopens. NOBODY should force people out of their homes. NOBODY should force us to lose all we have worked for.
04/24/2020 07:42 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Allison Meder	The decision to keep small businesses closed is needlessly crushing our economy and North Carolina families. Grocery stores can remain open, yet retail stores and other business must remain closed. Why is Walmart trusted to enact safety policies but stores such as "Kohls" cannot? Please - families are suffering. Businesses will have to close up shop indefinitely. Please vote to reverse this unconstitutional order! Please TRUST North Carolinians to do their part to stay safe, as well as practice healthy habits for our fellow neighbors.

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04/24/2020 07:42 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Patricia Martin	The state of North Carolina must open up now and restore the right to all businesses to operate freely and all churches to open their doors fully to all congregants. The governor is prevent people from exercising their rights to life, liberty, and happiness and preventing the free exercise of religion because congregants cannot gather for rites that require a pastor or priest to perform in community in the church. The governor is not fulfilling his oath of office because he is not serving the interests of the state; he is impoverishing both the state and its people. His actions have resulted in mass unemployment, business closures, hunger, deprivation of medical care for everyone NOT suffering from COVID-19. His actions are not based on data and science, but rather on the direction of a certain political party. #reopennc
04/24/2020 07:43 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Carol Snow	What are you doing TODAY to open NC businesses?
04/24/2020 07:47 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Deanna Utt	Wake Forest Baptist Health announced they are furloughing staff today. Let the counties decide to open individually. We see you and we will vote accordingly.
04/24/2020 07:51 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Kari Holley	Please open the state parks, allow people to get out and enjoy the scenery the fresh air. People need to exercise healthy habits that they learned at the age of 2. Small business need business, you can still keep your distance you can still keep hand sanitizer available at business, but please let us travel. Let's boost the economy better than what it has ever been!!!
04/24/2020 07:54 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. Kevin Davis	Please restore the Freedom of North Carolinians to work!!! Please restore the constitutional right to workshop our God in the way we see fit per the Constitution. Gov. Cooper is not a King and really does not have the right to take away our liberties. We can all social distance and work and worship just like Walmart and Harris Teeter can. This is NOT FAIR. The General Assembly is proving to be an unessential job as no one is doing their job. Why will you not stand up to him? If you cannot restore our rights. Please stop paying ALL Government Workers - close all businesses let us all stay at home until the King thinks it's safe to come out of hiding. I have a feeling Government Workers would care a lot more about work if they had something to lose. Please suspend property taxes in NC for the next year as it is really unfair to have us pay your taxes at the same time you require that we do not have a right to work. This is taxation without representation!!!! If Truck Drivers, Farmers, Grocery Store Workers can work so can our elected officials.. Please stop hiding behind the virus. It is your job - Please go to work for us as you were elected to do.
04/24/2020 07:58 AM	Education Working Group		I am very concerned about the possibility of having calendar flexibility and starting schools as early as August 17th. I am opposed to this idea for several reasons: 1. Due to the stay-at-home order and Governor's very restrictive phases--it could be as late as July or even August before travel is allowed. After all the stress, our kids need time to go and travel without our state. Moving school up earlier would take that away after so much has already been taken away. 2. Our mountains and coastal areas need the additional time to get some vacationers after being shut down for months. 3. Have you consider the extra costs?? Teachers may be typically back by then for workdays BUT what about ALL the hourly employees? Adding days of employment to contracts would be a substantial cost in a time when budgets are being slashed. Where

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			would all that money come from? Have you approved extra support to cover all that costs? I ask that you do NOT approve calendar flexibility and keep the current timeframe to open the schools the same.
04/24/2020 07:59 AM	Economic Support Working Group		People receiving paychecks from the Government, when the Government shutdown small businesses, should not determine when to reopen.
04/24/2020 08:07 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr Rob Campbell	Reopen the state. Tired of this nonsense. Death rate is less than a percent. Isolate high-risk individuals and let the other 90-plus percent of us get back to work and get the economy going again.
04/24/2020 08:07 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Vanessa Young	Please reopen nc!!
04/24/2020 08:12 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Patricia Parker	I need to work! I have no money, no groceries, I'm sure my truck will be repossessed soon. I can't take this much longer.
04/24/2020 08:17 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Kellie Robinson	I cannot truly believe I have to explain to my teenage children how any of this continuation makes sense. How business will close, opportunities will continue to dissolve and people will lose everything. This is beyond any impact the virus potentially has... the facts are NOT being published.
04/24/2020 08:29 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Wes Springob	REOPEN NC, without restrictions NOW! Why did I have to protest before the republicans get involved? Leaders would be out front if they had true conviction, not merely an interest in getting elected. I am equally willing to not vote for Republicans that don't make a strong stand right now and instead attempt to ride a wave of discontent for the current lot in Nov.
04/24/2020 08:29 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Nicole Conder	I am writing you this email because I cannot sit quietly and wait for the state of NC to hit these ridiculous measures set forth in Gov. Cooper and Dr. Cohen's "plan". We need to reopen NC NOW! Ultimately Gov. Cooper has extended the State at Home orders indefinitely. This is unacceptable for the people of NC, unacceptable for the small businesses that are being strangled, and ultimately should be unacceptable to you as our elected officials. North Carolina has just over 7,000 cases (at the time of this email) in a state of over 10.5 million! We have roughly 450 hospitalized cases in a state that can handle over 1700. Where is the logic and rational thinking here? Why are these "leaders" DESTROYING the backbone of our economy (in case you need a reminder, that would be small businesses!)? I am respectfully demanding that on April 28th, you introduce legislation that would reverse Cooper's Executive Stay-at-Home-Orders and allow the people of NC to get back to work. The state assemblies in MI and PA are/have currently initiated similar legislation to fight their tyrannical governors. North Carolina needs to set up and do the same! The numbers are in and our state is in a great place. We can reopen now and Dr. Cohen can "track, test, and trend" all she wants. The rest of us want to get back to work!!
04/24/2020 08:29 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Dr. Emily Elstad	Please don't heed this "Reopen NC" foolishness. The "availability heuristic" holds that as humans, we tend to think that information that is more available to us (e.g., highly covered by the media) is more likely or prevalent. So, the media coverage of the "Reopen NC" protests might make it seem like more people hold this sentiment than really do. The vast majority of North Carolinians want our government to make decisions for us based on

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			sound scientific evidence and the health and safety of all residents, not the noise and bluster of a handful of uninformed and reckless individuals. We all want to get back to business, but only when it's safe to do so, and in the safest possible way.
04/24/2020 08:31 AM	Economic Support Working Group	NC is not made Luis Vega	North Carolinians have proven time and again that we can live and work under restrictive circumstances. However, we need to move forward and reengage our economy, our social structure, our daily lives, and our religious observances. Misuse of a pandemic for political purposes is irresponsible and childishy petulant. We must move out of our homes and back to our workplaces, shopping venues, and houses of worship. Otherwise we will either and return to a state similar to the great depression.
04/24/2020 08:32 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Rev. Karen Ziegler	If we reopen too soon, the economy will suffer even worse. I support Governor Cooper and want you to support him too.
04/24/2020 08:34 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Melinda Davis	Open NC up! These over-reaching orders will have generational consequences if our state can't compete with our surrounding states re-opening.
04/24/2020 08:34 AM	Education Working Group	Trevia Woods	As an educator, thank you for closing the schools and allowing us the flexibility to keep meeting the needs of our students online. I will not feel comfortable going back to school until the Fall. The stress of cleaning, worrying and being responsible for young children in the classroom was very stressful as flu season was hitting hard in Feb then Covid came. Thank you for all you do.
04/24/2020 08:37 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr Kent McDougal	We have no confidence in Mr. Cooper as he has failed to offer a reasonable plan to make any real progress to reopen our state. It is time to follow the example of the Michigan general assembly and stripped the governor of his tyrannical power. The Constitution gives us the liberty to work and worship and was never meant to be put on hold for any reason. These are not laws but guidelines. Please help the people reclaim our freedoms!
04/24/2020 08:38 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Opening Charlie Dyer	Open the state. This has gone too long and too far. Open the state now
04/24/2020 08:38 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Angela Averette	It's time to open North Carolina! The goal was to protect our healthcare system and we have done that. Now it's time to move to protect our economy!
04/24/2020 08:42 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs Summer Wilson	Decisions to be made to re-open should be determined by local governments. Not all cities are populated the same. Those local to the towns are more equipped to make those decisions.
04/24/2020 08:46 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Kristin McCora	Reopen NC!!
04/24/2020 08:48 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Shana Deitrick	REOPEN NC. This absurd form of control is killing the economy and its people. The curve was flattened, the peak has passed, there is ZERO reason to continue the restrictions. We will all be exposed to the virus at some point - if we haven't been already - we have to be. The people who will die, will die. Flattening the curve was never about saving lives. Those that will die from the virus will - this was about spreading out the cases to not overwhelm the system. But, the system is FURLOUGHING workers it's done it's job. We stayed

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			home - for two months now. Let NC go back to work. You are single handedly destroying the state. THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE. Look at the data, not the fear.
04/24/2020 08:49 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Stephanie Brown	Internet should be treated as a public utility and broadband should be available to ALL in North Carolina.
04/24/2020 08:50 AM	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
04/24/2020 08:50 AM	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.
04/24/2020 08:54 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Terese Jerosse	What can the state do to ensure that the food our farmers are producing are not being destroyed but gets to feed people? Could this be addressed in a news briefing? On a side note, while a small business loan aid package from the fed sounds good, it does Not feed anyone directly. The fed should take note of how the U.K. is handling unemployment. This is an opportunity for the state to recalibrate
04/24/2020 08:58 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr David Andersen	<p>This isn't a question of money vs. lives: it's lives vs. lives.</p> <p>No one wants to see people die, of course: every death is someone's mom or dad, someone's grandparent or child.</p> <p>The virus is potentially deadly for anyone who gets infected; definitely serious, and we should be taking precautions.</p> <p>But it is no Ebola: it doesn't kill 40%, 50% of a population it hits. The number looks like it will be less than 1%. Again, no one wants to see anyone die of this virus, but is our response to it going to kill more people than the virus?</p> <p>What do I mean by that? How many people die of suicide, drug overdoses, alcohol abuse in a deep recession? How many seniors lose their life savings, wind up destitute? How many people wind up homeless? Hopeless? What about the increase in domestic violence; in crime overall? And if the results of this extended shutdown get as bad as many analysts predict—they're saying it could be the worst we've seen since the Great Depression—how many will starve to death, on the streets?</p> <p>This isn't a question of money vs. lives: it's lives vs. lives.</p>

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			<p>Public policy is a horrible, terrible job and I'd never want to have it. The fact is, the job isn't to make the *best* decision: there is no The Best. The job is to look at all the possible paths forward—each of them involving some level of death and suffering—and to pick the least worst way forward.</p> <p>As a nation, we can't afford monochromatic decision making; decisions based only on the most immediate, scary threat, yet in state after state, county and city after county and city, that is what we're seeing, exclusively: practically none of the elected officials—our employees—are contemplating, let alone explaining, the entirety of causes and effects that must be weighed.</p> <p>The best that can be done? Choosing the least worst.</p>
04/24/2020 08:59 AM	Health Care Working Group	matthew Rawlings	Today the US has over 32% of COVID cases and 26% of related deaths. There's lots of blame to go around for these shameful numbers. If you all decide to take premature action now, some of that blame could be yours. We are paying close attention.
04/24/2020 09:07 AM	Economic Support Working Group	#reopennc Bobbi	It is beyond time to open NC back up. This was always intended to flatten the curve and not overwhelm our hospitals. They are not overwhelmed, but all the people put out of work are. It is time to allow people to work safely. #reopennc
04/24/2020 09:08 AM	Health Care Working Group	Patricia Rieser	As a retired nurse practitioner, I strongly support Gov Cooper's science- and evidence-based approach to "reopening" North Carolina. It's clear from the data that NC is NOT "over the hump" of COVID-19, and it's also clear from polling that most people in NC trust Gov Cooper's approach (Public Policy Polling, 4/23/2020). I strongly urge you to support NC's small businesses with additional funding and to enact an emergency expansion of Medicaid to cover those who have lost their jobs temporarily. The worst thing we could do for our long-term physical, infrastructure (hospitals) and financial health is expose more people to this deadly infection too quickly.
04/24/2020 09:10 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ann Glacken	<p>I am a self-employed artist and art instructor. My income is derived from teaching art workshops across the state and from the sale of paintings, prints, and cards. Already half of the workshops I was scheduled to teach have been cancelled by the art school I teach at. It looks like the remainder of my workshops which are scheduled for July will be cancelled as well. Due to this shut down, my orders for prints and cards have ceased because the venues that sell them are closed. This leaves me with ZERO income from my business. Yet, I still have business related expenses that need to be paid. It has taken me years to build up my business. Last year was my best year. Now it has come crashing down to ZERO.</p> <p>Also, because the system for filing unemployment here in this state does not recognize the self-employed, my application keeps being rejected and I cannot get through to a live person to help me because the system is overloaded. So I have received no relief there as well. How can a state demand you stop working, yet not provide for you? This is totally unconstitutional.</p> <p>We need to reopen NC.</p>
04/24/2020 09:12 AM	Health Care Working	Joseph Woolley	As a retired PhD/pharmaceutical scientist with experience in infectious diseases such as

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
	Group		HIV and hepatitis C, I strongly support Gov Cooper's science- and data-based approach to NC's economic recovery. It is clear that NC is not yet past the danger point in terms of overwhelming our health care system. It's also clear from multiple polls that most people in NC trust what he's doing, as do I. Premature loosening of current restrictions would likely be deadly to humans and prolong our economic recovery. The state should be supporting small businesses that are suffering and expand Medicaid to cover those who have become (temporarily) unemployed.
04/24/2020 09:23 AM	Education Working Group	Ms Rachel Ogonowski	North Carolina, teachers, parents, and students are not prepared, or trained, nor have the infrastructure in place needed for equitable and meaningful home learning. Safety of citizens is paramount to any economic, educational, or political needs. Education can take a backseat to fundamental priorities: safety, food, shelter.
04/24/2020 09:23 AM	Education Working Group	Laura B	I support the continued closure of non essential businesses. Following the recommendation of science experts is so important. Let's keep NC closed to keep everyone safe!
04/24/2020 09:27 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Susan Agner	Since guidelines to manage the Covid 19 virus are based on faulty data, our state should look at the scientifically proven data to manage outbreaks of ANY disease that we already have in place. Statnews.com "Influential Covid 19 Model Uses Flawed Methods and Shouldn't Guide Us Policies, Critics Say" by Sharon Begley 4/17/20.
04/24/2020 09:27 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Danielle Lynn	I will not be voting for Cooper. He is KILLING small Businesses each day the Lock down is in place.
04/24/2020 09:36 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Angie Rush	Dear Members of the North Carolina General Assembly, Respectfully, we, the working class and small business owners of North Carolina, ask you that take into consideration the reopening of North Carolina. Many citizens believe that there should be no-phased roll out and we want the ability for ALL to go back to work. Please know that we are need to get back to work for our families and our economy. We want this to happen sooner rather than on the Governor's timeline. Please help us!
04/24/2020 09:41 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Karl Gessler	I am highly disappointed with the continued shut-down. I have seen no evidence that this is a sustainable solution. What I do see is a violation of our rights as Americans to take our own precautions and risks. The current policies are taking risks for us and refuse us the right to object. I strongly disagree with continuing this "state of emergency".
04/24/2020 09:44 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Shari Tennant	NC I am a Dental Hygienist in Cornelius and have been lained 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!!!
04/24/2020 09:46 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Leah Sikes	Please, fight for our right as citizens to run our businesses and support our businesses as stated in our laws. We want N.C. reopened.

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04/24/2020 09:49 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. Jimmie Simpkins	We The People are tired of the government controlling the media and everything we do . It will stop
04/24/2020 09:57 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Reopen NC Maura Aguirre	The economy of North Carolina is going to be severely damaged if the state is not opened up by May 1st. Is that the kind of world you want your kids, grandkids and loved ones to live in? The real virus is the media and the fear it has created in the hearts and minds of the American people. With the shutdown continued, suicide rates will skyrocket, and people are going to disregard the shutdown orders altogether. Open North Carolina! End the shutdown!
04/24/2020 09:57 AM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Giselle López	I appreciate Governor Cooper's thoughtful and data driven approach to re-opening North Carolina, and I encourage all committees on COVID-19 to carefully evaluate re-opening to make sure that we protect the lives of North Carolina citizens and avoid overwhelming our hospitals throughout the state. A phased approach using public health data, with the input of physicians and scientists is a responsible way to safely re-open our state, and allows flexibility for moving backwards in those phases when needed to protect our citizens.
04/24/2020 09:57 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms Lynn Weller	I believe it is very important for NC residents to have access to Mail-In Voting in the November 2020 election. I hope there are plans for enacting a comprehensive Mail-In Voting program to protect our November election.
04/24/2020 10:02 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Kathey Avery	Medicaid expansion will bring jobs aid to our local economies, support low-income employees who have lost their jobs and provide a safety-net health care program for low income people. Covid-19 will return! Low-income, people of color need the resources to seek help immediately.
04/24/2020 10:07 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Flatten the curve Jen Jahnke	I am appreciative of Govenor Cooper's choice to remain closed while the covid cases are still rising. I have family who are vulnerable and slowing the spread keeps them safe.
04/24/2020 10:18 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Janet Hunter	We want our rights back. The Governor's plan is unacceptable. Healthy people want to support their family. Help us, please.
04/24/2020 10:19 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Sophia Pelton	Please keep NC closed until we see declining numbers of new cases for 14 days.
04/24/2020 10:20 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Alan Gilstrap	Open up NC now! Families are hurting. The citizens of NC are not stupid and we will clean house in November if our elected officials don't get back to Raleigh and stand up to this oppressive, overreaching governor.
04/24/2020 10:21 AM	Health Care Working Group	Budget Blinds of North Wi MACK MOORE	ReOpen NC now
04/24/2020 10:21 AM	Continuity of State	Budget Blinds of North	ReOpen NC now

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	Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Wi MACK MOORE	
04/24/2020 10:21 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Budget Blinds of North Wi MACK MOORE	ReOpen NC now
04/24/2020 10:22 AM	Education Working Group	Budget Blinds of North Wi MACK MOORE	ReOpen NC now
04/24/2020 10:27 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Carolyn Shorkey	Please accept federal government assistance to expand Medicaid in our state. Health care for all of our citizens, in some form or another is very important for our economic growth.
04/24/2020 10:30 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Cathrine Thomas	Override that power hungry governors and reopen this state. Enough is enough! You're in your position because we put you there. Please do what we're asking and give us our lives back!
04/24/2020 10:39 AM	Health Care Working Group	Paula Brafford	I feel it is crucial for the well being of all our citizens to expand our Medicaid coverage. More and more of our citizens are in need of medical care and suffering from declining incomes. We know it is better if everyone seeks early medical care; which provides both physical and economic benefits.
04/24/2020 10:40 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Daisy R	Please save lives: ReOpen NC!
04/24/2020 10:46 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Caitlyn Caban	This is ridiculous. What makes the ABC liquor store essential and not my business? If your gonna have Me not getting paid for over a month then all of my bills should be covered and then some. This is ridiculous. REOPEN NC!!! The elderly, the sick, and those who have compromised immune systems should stay home they are the highest risk.
04/24/2020 10:58 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ann Rataska	<p>"How Cowardice And Class Privilege Shift Support For Coronavirus Lockdowns All worthwhile activities always involve risk of death—to oneself and others. That is no excuse for assuming a fetal position and failing to live one's life. Jonathan Ashbach By Jonathan Ashbach April 23, 2020 "There is a moral core to the argument against draconian use of stay-at-home orders that has yet to be well articulated in the public sphere.</p> <p>Reactionary governmental responses to the spread of coronavirus have been catastrophic. We have inflicted job loss upon tens of millions of American workers. We have put a quarter of small businesses at risk of permanently shutting down. And we have inflicted untold mental distress upon hundreds of millions. All this in the last few weeks.</p> <p>Yet extreme response measures still hold an aura of moral superiority for many. There is a touch of the surreal in the oblivious manner with which many talking heads have savagely</p>

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			<p>put down any resistance to intrusive measures with a simplistic, "This will save lives," or, "Our goal must be to minimize deaths."</p> <p>Point out the compounded economic and personal hardship that our response has inflicted, and in many quarters you will meet at best the dismissive retort that one can't measure lives against the economy and at worst with the accusation that you are a selfish &^%\$# who values your freedom over others' wellbeing.</p> <p>The Moral Heart of the Resistance</p> <p>What is disheartening, on the other hand, is the intense poverty of moral vision that the response reveals. It takes for granted the moral irrelevance of work, study, human interaction, sightseeing, dating, going to the gym, attending sacred services, and all of the million and one things that the current restrictions have largely put on hold.</p> <p>It is not true that those who value the plethora of activities that make up human life are prioritizing selfishness over the real wellbeing of the nation. Exactly the contrary. Months of people's lives are slipping away forever. It is those who dismiss that who devalue the human.</p> <p>The jobs we have taken from tens of millions of our fellow citizens cannot simply be dismissed as amoral dollars and cents. They are sources of meaning and provision, arenas of excellence of profound moral worth—and especially valuable, one might add, to the less economically privileged, who are disproportionately suffering under our new rules.</p> <p>The hundreds of thousands of small businesses that we are driving into the ground are not simply abstract "companies." They represent the investment of the dreams and life work of millions of our fellow citizens. A class is not merely an instrument for increasing average worker productivity. It is a sacred activity—opening the mind to truth, crafting the character, unfolding the understanding.</p> <p>The personal, face-to-face human interactions that we have cut off at the source are the very stuff of meaningful life. To respond that all of these activities can be moved online would be to engage in an exercise in self-delusion."</p>
04/24/2020 10:58 AM	Health Care Working Group	Diane Stamatelatos	<p>We were told that we were shutting down our state to flatten the curve so that we do not overwhelm the healthcare system. I'm a statistician so I understand this to mean that the area under the curve remains the same but is spread over time. We understand that there is still no magic bullet or vaccine and the NC citizens will get the virus. We also understand that it is simply not feasible to stay closed for the next 12-18 months. So, it seems that we HAVE to find a way to methodically open our state back up while ensuring we do not overwhelm the health care system. Now's the time. Please open up our economy!</p>
04/24/2020 10:59 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working	Greater Glory Worship Art Kathryn Naef	<p>Governor Cooper needs to be corrected.</p> <p>His 'phase 1' is what we're doing NOW. That's not new, He's keeping counties with little to no outbreak absolutely PARALYZED. He is killing our economy. He is putting us further in</p>

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	Group		<p>debt. He is not listening, or watching, or using any measure of sense. Opening WILL bring a surge in the virus. ALL the projections say so. To keep us at home with only 9 people in our local hospital with COVID is not only ignorant, it's irresponsible, and it's NOT stopping the inevitable, just prolonging it.</p> <p>Gov. Cooper needs to seriously consider the fact that the average family of 4 CAN NOT live on \$1200 even for one month, let alone 2. His 'plan' is impoverishing the people and creating a government-dependent constituency who are going to revolt against this terrible 'plan'.</p> <p>STARTING with phase 2 would be a massive improvement to the 'plan'. We don't need more time. The governor needs to stop the tyranny and lift restrictions so small businesses can open and people can begin living again. Enough is enough.</p> <p>I ask that you, NC representatives STRIP these legislative orders and Gov. Cooper of his draconian power. Let the people of NC decide how they will live.</p>
04/24/2020 11:00 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms. Carol Scofield	<p>I support Gov Cooper's science- and evidence-based approach to EASING current restrictions.</p> <p>I support the NCGA expanding Medicaid to cover many of those who have lost their jobs. I support the NCGA providing more financial support to small businesses that are suffering,</p>
04/24/2020 11:02 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr E J	No, it's time for you to give us comments.
04/24/2020 11:02 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr E J	No, it's time for you to give us comments. Re Open Now
04/24/2020 11:02 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mr E J	No, it's time for you to give us comments.
04/24/2020 11:03 AM	Education Working Group	Mr E J	No, it's time for you to give us comments.
04/24/2020 11:04 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr E J	<p>We were told that we were shutting down our state to flatten the curve so that we do not overwhelm the healthcare system. I'm a statistician so I understand this to mean that the area under the curve remains the same but is spread over time. We understand that there is still no magic bullet or vaccine and the NC citizens will get the virus. We also understand that it is simply not feasible to stay closed for the next 12-18 months. So, it seems that we HAVE to find a way to methodically open our state back up while ensuring we do not overwhelm the health care system. Now's the time.</p> <p>Please open up our economy!</p>
04/24/2020 11:04 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr E J	<p>We were told that we were shutting down our state to flatten the curve so that we do not overwhelm the healthcare system. I'm a statistician so I understand this to mean that the area under the curve remains the same but is spread over time. We understand that there is still no magic bullet and the NC citizens will get the virus. We also understand that it is</p>

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			<p>simply not feasible to stay closed for the next 12-18 months. So, it seems that we HAVE to find a way to methodically open our state back up while ensuring we do not overwhelm the health care system. Now's the time.</p> <p>Please open up our economy!</p>
04/24/2020 11:05 AM	Economic Support Working Group	beth barkovich	<p>This is against our rights - making us all stay at home and lose revenue but your going to maybe allow NASCAR Race? come on - we know NASCAR is a contributor as is all big business. help your voters. allow us to go back to work and OPEN the state. and - did you agree to take a pay cut or NO pay and go on unemployment like you are making millions do? get real - the only this virus has done has shown how corrupt our political system is - nobody should be punished for less than .05% of the population like you are causing. Serious pain - but its ok - the ABC stores are open - another ridiculous ruling. we value alcohol more than life or someones livelihood to support their family? Open NC May 1. May 8th is not necessary.</p>
04/24/2020 11:05 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Wendy Mayo	<p>Please reopen NC now!!! Keep vulnerable populations home but let us get back to growing our businesses</p>
04/24/2020 11:15 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Brian Knowles	<p>We need to reopen NC now! My small business and many others I know are suffering irreparable damage. We are sacrificing the many for a few and that is not the answer.</p>
04/24/2020 11:19 AM	Health Care Working Group	Tyler Pomerhn	<p>COVID19 presents less risk to any able-bodied North Carolinian than driving, falling down, and many other daily occurrences. Governor Cooper has defied science, logic, and statistics to continue and even extend a shutdown that is not constitutional, against all sense of reason, and is as bankrupt morally as many NC business are soon to be financially. While it is terrible that "hundreds" or people have died, hundreds of thousands are having their entire lives upended by this ridiculous policy's continuance. Please remove all restrictions immediately and simply recommend to the public that those who are in danger (such as the elderly and those with pre-existing conditions) self-quarantine.</p>
04/24/2020 11:19 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr William Leatherwood	<p>Get off your butts and get to work. NC does not have a king although cooper thinks he is. Tar and feathers are in your future.And you only have yourselves to blame.</p>
04/24/2020 11:19 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Julia Deltano	<p>How much longer are we expected to try to keep our businesses viable, put food on the table, and pay our rent or mortgage without income? We still have not received our PPP loan we applied for, SBA loan (although we got a 2000.00 of the SBA emergency advance - which doesn't come close to keeping our business afloat) no unemployment, or stimulus money. So we are just to sit back and wait another 2 months to work? We do not need to keep hiding.....there is not going to be anything left to come out of hiding for.</p>
04/24/2020 11:26 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Dr. Abir mandal	<p>Imprison herr cooper for violating our constitutional rights.</p>
04/24/2020 11:27 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	David Byrd	<p>The Governor's executive orders are both unconstitutional and ineffective. We need to allow younger and healthy people to #ReopenNC with safe precautions and build the herd immunity to starve the virus of hosts while the sick and vulnerable stay isolated. Right now the most vulnerable are being pushed out in front because the healthy population can't build immunity and outs attaching the weakest link. The NC legislature needs to limit the Governor's power! HOLD THE VOTE!</p>
04/24/2020 11:28 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency	Mr John Neblett	<p>Let's get back to work! It seems that the majority of COVID-19 cases are now in nursing homes and prisons. I can't verify because the NC HHS data doesn't break the data out and</p>

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	Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group		provide trends for community living vs non-community living cases. Let's focus on the areas where the problem is (community living facilities) and let the rest of us return to a more normal life.
04/24/2020 11:33 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Vincent Giannetti	You need to lift this stay at home order and let business reopen. You are destroying this state's economy and it will take years for us to recover.
04/24/2020 11:34 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. James Hildreth	Governor Cooper has violated his oath of office. He has also shown that he is fundamentally incompetent when it comes to effective leadership. He has dramatically failed through his policies of "one size fits all" as it relates to counties and cities/towns. These policies are clearly killing the economy of North Carolina by the unequally applied demands. This is a clear violation of the 14th Amendment and must be overruled by you as elected officials.
04/24/2020 11:36 AM	Health Care Working Group	Cheryl Rossi	A lot of hospitals are empty and staff are being furloughed. How can this be in a pandemic? Because some areas are not as bad as others. Hospitals should be given the opportunity to decide for themselves if they should reopen to do electives surgeries as they are the ones that truly see the trends on this virus. People are not getting the treatments they desperately need! Even the ER depts. are empty! It is very irresponsible to keep hospitals shut down! Please reconsider your actions. You are doing more harm than good!
04/24/2020 11:42 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Re open NC James Robertson	The Governor's unconstitutional and authoritarian over reach can't continue. The lockdown was implemented based on projections that have been reduced 1000%. These changes should have been celebrated as a victory. The Governor is willing to sacrifice millions of lives for the initial overreaction and mistake. People are killing themselves! We are losing everything over flawed data and projections. Hospitals are not overrun. Hospital workers are being laid off and furloughed. This is all not only unamerican but Orwellian to the core.
04/24/2020 11:49 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Allison Parkhurst	Reopen NC! It's time we get the economy going again. No more fear based decisions on skewed facts!
04/24/2020 11:49 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Jack Marshfield	The NCGA needs to begin consideration on legislation that REMOVES or SEVERELY CONSTRAINS any Governor's power to shut down North Carolina during ANY KIND OF EMERGENCY. The legislation SHOULD INCLUDE language to the effect that under NO CONDITIONS may a declaration be made that make the RIGHTS of Citizen Non-Essential. Any such condition of the declaration makes the declaration void and of no effect.
04/24/2020 11:57 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. Katherine Walker	Glad that Cooper announced benchmarks on reopening NC. NOW STICK TO THEM! Looking at the NC COVID infection, hospitalization, and death graphs, no only have we now gotten to the downward curve, we haven't even peaked yet. Stay the course. Keep people home as much as possible. It will be _very_ interesting to see the numbers in 10-14 days after the recent public gatherings by unmasked OpenNow folks.
04/24/2020 11:58 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Corey Gooden	Please have Governor Cooper read section 1 of the North Carolina Constitution. "Let us" work; only if it pleases the king, of course!
			Section 1. The equality and rights of persons.

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04/24/2020 12:02 PM	Economic Support Working Group		We hold it to be self-evident that all persons are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, the enjoyment of the fruits of their own labor, and the pursuit of happiness.
04/24/2020 12:06 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Brea Estep	Governor Roy Cooper has committed the act of false imprisonment on the citizens of North Carolina. That is against the law, defined as follows: 'False imprisonment is an act punishable under criminal law. A person commits false imprisonment when he commits an act of restraint on another person which confines that person in a bounded area' (Cornell Law Legal Information Institute). Governor Cooper has ordered us to stay in our homes despite the fact that the Coronavirus has a low mortality rate. He has imprisoned North Carolinians in their homes, and restricted the economy to the ever-arbitrary "essential businesses". Those who are at risk are welcome stay at home and wear protective gear if they feel unsafe. However, herd immunity needs to be built up so the healthy individuals can maintain a strong economy for those who are staying at home.
04/24/2020 12:08 PM	Health Care Working Group	Cheryl Rossi	#reopennc
04/24/2020 12:08 PM	Health Care Working Group	Cheryl Rossi	Here is some factual information from doctors in the field. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJprwe_rWeM&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR1roJalGpwRPOvUrUZ-YRqGI0MqHI3-rb8a8m2S6S9WqjJJ7njA74df6ko
04/24/2020 12:19 PM	Economic Support Working Group	J Minchew	Governor Cooper is doing an excellent job. Lives matter more than money. Our state is well positioned to be able to handle the ongoing pandemic because of the measures that are in place. Do not let a vocal few grab your attention. We must protect our citizens
04/24/2020 12:22 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Erin Daniel	We need to work and support our families!!! Executive order is unconstitutional! Open now!
04/24/2020 12:22 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Joshua Saltz	Concerning the current state of North Carolina's Covid19 lock down. I am a father of 5, self employed and deeply concerned with both the economic impact and the impact upon our constitutional liberties. While I understand the concern for vulnerable citizens within our community I am fearful of the long term repercussions of this prolonged shutdown. The backbone of our states economy is not government but small business and that is who is suffering under the current restrictions. Every day shut down has impact far reaching into the future. Please hear your constituents and respond, we are a society governed for, with and by the people its time Raleigh recognizes this. Thank you
04/24/2020 12:26 PM	Economic Support Working Group	COVID Michael Baldwin	Representatives, We need to open N.C. back up. We should recognize that is our major box stores can remain open and not spread this to customers or employees then our small businesses can as well. Provide cleaning protocols and guidance. This additional work should still be more economically friendly and achievable than leaving them shut down. Open N.C.
04/24/2020 12:27 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Fran Spinola	You must push back on Governor Cooper's stay-at-home order. There is no factual basis for it and he's taking us on a downhill trajectory. Meanwhile citizens are suffering economically and emotionally. Loss of livelihood is a serious issue and no Governor should have the right to treat citizens like royal subjects. We've been mislead by models and lied to. Flattening the curve supposedly was a way to keep hospitals from being

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			overwhelmed. They're not overwhelmed.
			Who benefits from this? Ask yourself that and then stand up for your citizens.
04/24/2020 12:30 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	False Imprisonment Maura Aguirre	<p>NC Governor Roy Cooper has falsely imprisoned the people of North Carolina. He has also violated the Fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.</p> <p>False imprisonment is against the law, defined as follows: 'False imprisonment is an act punishable under criminal law. A person commits false imprisonment when he commits an act of restraint on another person which confines that person in a bounded area' (Cornell Law Legal Information Institute). Governor Cooper has ordered people to stay in their homes despite the fact that the Coronavirus has a low mortality rate. He has imprisoned North Carolinians in their homes, and restricted the economy to the ever-arbitrary 'essential businesses'.</p> <p>He has also violated the Fifth Amendment. North Carolinians have been deprived of life, liberty, and property. This lockdown has barred people from getting surgeries or medical care that they need, which has taken lives. It has taken away the liberty a person has to leave their house. It has deprived people of property because it is causing individuals and families to lose their homes, businesses, cars, and other forms of property. Therefore, it is unconstitutional.</p> <p>Those who are at risk are welcome to shelter in place and stay at home if they feel unsafe. However, herd immunity needs to be built up so the healthy individuals can maintain a strong economy for those who are staying at home. This is a group effort and I know that you have the power to end the shutdown! It needs to end no later than May 1st!</p> <p>Thank you for all your efforts!</p>
04/24/2020 12:32 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Open NC Lanesa Gaulden	Open NC now, yes phases but do not tarry any longer we need to get back to work and can do so safely if we take precautions!
04/24/2020 12:32 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Reopen Sarah Harbin	<p>Let's start the process of reopening now rather than waiting.</p> <p>Let's stop acting like we need to change election procedures when elections are 7 months away.</p>
04/24/2020 12:37 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	JP Trostle	<p>Expand Vote by Mail to everyone for the general election. If mail-in ballots are good enough for the troops overseas, they're good enough for all Americans.</p> <p>Oh and step up the security around Vote by Mail. The resent shenanigans in Congressional District 9 proved that Republicans will stop at nothing to cheat and disenfranchise voters.</p>
04/24/2020 12:38 PM	Health Care Working Group	Jessica Sangutei	I am a registered nurse. I support Governor Cooper's and the NC DHHS recommendations to continue the stay-at-home orders and proceed with phases of returning to opening the state. I am very concerned if we open too quickly that lives will be lost and the healthcare system will lose the gains made by "flattening the curve" in the past month. I do not appreciate the ill-advised message of those who are pushing opening faster as they do not seem to consider the common good of all North Carolinians' but instead their own limited perspective.

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04/24/2020 12:43 PM	Economic Support Working Group	JP Trostle	<p>This state is NOT ready to be reopened. This viral outbreak is NOT under control, and if you try and rush back to "normal" now, you will be right back where we were a month ago, and endanger thousands of citizen's lives.</p> <p>Honestly — any attempt to force the economy open before Memorial Day will end in disaster.</p> <p>Do not be bullied or swayed by the astroturf tactics of the hysterical #ReopenNC. They are paid protestors and tiny fraction of the population — they do not speak for us!</p>
04/24/2020 12:44 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Re Open NC Elisa Keefe	Please stand up to Governor Cooper and fight to Re-open North Carolina. Please don't be bullied by the fearmongers, but rather lean on rational thinking.
04/24/2020 12:51 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Jamie Gartman	This shut down is destroying the working poor and middle class. Tax revenues are in dire straights and this will have a very negative impact on education, social services, pensions and infra-structure. This authoritarian executive order is based on the whims of a Governor who is owned by the far left and DC elitist. It has nothing to do with science. Disgusting. Reopen now ! We will not be silenced.
04/24/2020 12:53 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Nancy Novack	https://thefederalist.com/2020/04/24/reopening-the-nation-is-now-necessary-to-save-lives/ this is an excellent explanation of what I think . . .
04/24/2020 12:59 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Carolina Cooper	Reopen NC now! The models were wrong. We flattened the curve. Our hospitals were not overwhelmed. The infection rate is higher than we ever knew despite the lockdowns and the fatality rate is much lower than we were told. All of this has been for nothing! It's time to reopen! Stop King Cooper NOW!
04/24/2020 01:02 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Shelley Day	I support a continued stay-at-home order until NC is able to meet the standards set forth by the President's own Covid-19 task force and Governor Cooper.
04/24/2020 01:04 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Dave Dickens	Please REOPENNC! People are suffering from loss of employment/income, and we need to get our economy back on. I see over 700,000 unemployment claims submitted, for <300 deaths. We need a more aggressive plan to get people working again, and Gov Cooper's plan is too slow.
04/24/2020 01:05 PM	Economic Support Working Group	MS Sharon Chilton-Moser	<p>Reopen our state fully for business!</p> <p>The governor's stay at home order unfairly singles out certain businesses as "non essential" and restricts others in ways that have nothing to do with public health. The orders are unconstitutional. The orders originally referenced a goal of "flattening a curve" in order to avoid overwhelming health care facilities. The curve is dead flat and health care facilities are empty, laying off more people every day.</p> <p>This is a farce with an agenda.</p>
04/24/2020 01:08 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group		Reopen North Carolina yesterday
04/24/2020 01:09 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Denise Evans	Reopen Hair Salons. Salons are not one size fits all some are one chair one person at the time already. Go by cdc rules.
04/24/2020 01:16 PM	Health Care Working	Manju Karkare	Can we get Medical Nutrition Therapy added to this section? CMS covers Medical

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	Group		<p>Nutrition Therapy via Telehealth already.</p> <p>Section 6.2: Health Benefit Plan Coverage of Telehealth Section</p> <p>This section would add a new section to Article 50 of Chapter 58 that would define "health benefit plan," "telehealth," and "virtual healthcare" and require insurers and the State Health Plan to:</p> <p>Provide coverage for telephonic healthcare and electronic patient visits, both of which would be considered virtual healthcare.</p> <p>Provide coverage for provider-to-provider consultations conducted via virtual healthcare if those consultations would have been covered if they had been face-to-face.</p> <p>Cover telehealth and virtual healthcare services without prior authorization or any limits on the originating or distant sites.</p> <p>Cover physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy when delivered via telehealth.</p> <p>Not charge a greater deductible, copay, or coinsurance for services delivered via telehealth than is required for in-person services.</p> <p>Reimburse providers the same rate for telehealth services as they do for in-person services.</p>
04/24/2020 01:17 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Manju Karkare	Protect the vote by promoting absentee vote-by-mail and providing postage-paid return envelopes for ballots, expanding flexibility of early voting, and enhancing recruitment of poll workers. This is critical as we expect the fall/election season to be another difficult season for public gatherings.
04/24/2020 01:18 PM	Health Care Working Group	Manju Karkare	Expand Medicaid to cover 500,000 additional North Carolinians. Doing so would cover the workers who are the backbone of our current economy, protect families from bankruptcy, and help struggling rural hospitals stay afloat. Not only that, but 36 of 50 states, red and blue alike, already have expanded their Medicaid programs, and a large bipartisan majority of North Carolinians support this common-sense policy change.
04/24/2020 01:21 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Kenni Setzer	Please reopen our economy. It is vital to our state's well being. Everyone who provides shelter and food for his/herself and/or his/her family is essential, no matter if they are a business owner or employee. Quarantine has always been deemed for the sick not the healthy. The reality is that like the flu this virus is not going away, we are going to live with this from now on. The sooner we all get back to work the better off we will be. Please put the citizens of North Carolina first instead of any political agenda.
04/24/2020 01:21 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Please ReOpen NC Erica Lee	Please reopen NC
04/24/2020 01:27 PM	Health Care Working Group	Consulting Melanie Fuller	North Carolina needs expanded Medicare to 500,000 additional North Carolinians. Doing so would cover the workers who are the backbone of our current economy, protect families from bankruptcy, and help struggling rural hospitals stay afloat. Not only that, but 36 of 50 states, red and blue alike, already have expanded their Medicaid programs, and a large bipartisan majority of North Carolinians support this common-sense policy change.
04/24/2020 01:29 PM	Health Care Working Group	Denise Souza	I am writing to ask for your support for our cause regarding reopening NC. There is far more at stake than simply our economy, which frankly has full merit on its own. This

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			<p>country was founded and built through the sweat, tenacity and patriotism of small businesses, not large corporations or government. We must open NC as soon as possible to restore our economy and hope for our future.</p> <p>We need to address the increase in domestic violence and help at-risk women and children that are locked in with their abusers for months. We need to encourage the addict that was on the road to recovery that has now slipped back into despair and substance abuse. We need to support and encourage that mom, especially the single moms, that have now become teachers while trying to work from home. We need to work so the unemployment rate will drop before the suicide rate skyrockets. What about all of those victims of COVID? Death is not the only tragedy from COVID, nor should it be the primary one that we base our decisions on.</p> <p>NC can be a light in the darkness, a leader to the country and be the example of a community that helps our citizens by allowing them to exercise their freedoms provided under the Constitution and exercise their own common sense. The curve that needs to flatten is the government restrictions, censorship by social media and careless reporting lacking true journalism.</p> <p>When there is a problem, one must make a conscious choice to be part of the problem or part of the solution, there isn't a third choice. I encourage you to be part of the solution. When a community is strong, the state is strong, then we can also help others that perhaps are not as safe to lift the burdensome restrictions.</p> <p>Please stand for our Constitutional rights.</p>
04/24/2020 01:34 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Consulting Melanie Fuller	There is nothing more important than the citizens right to vote. I encourage you to promote and fund expanded absentee vote-by-mail. These efforts should include postage-paid return envelopes for ballots, expanded flexibility of early voting and expanded recruiting of poll workers. These issues are urgent. We must be allowed to choose our officials at all times. There is no reason this can not work. Half of the voting population did not vote in the last Presidential election. We have to beg people to vote. To me, that indicates cheating is rare, despite what happened in NC in 2018. Do your job and make this happen.
04/24/2020 01:38 PM	Health Care Working Group	Timothy Wetzel	Please don't listen to the small mob that wants to re-open the state. Listen to medical experts and scientists and keep us closed as long as is needed to get us past this virus.
04/24/2020 01:47 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr William Ward	PLEASE OVERRIDE GOV COOPER'S OVERREACH AND RE-OPEN NC NO LATER THAN MAY 4TH!! THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK IN THIS TIME OF CRISIS!!
04/24/2020 01:50 PM	Economic Support Working Group		NC needs to reopen. You are killing people by taking away their rights. We have rights guaranteed to us by the Constitution. You are in violation of those rights. You do not have the right to lock Americans in their homes like criminals and force their economic destruction. OPEN THE STATE BACK UP!!
04/24/2020 01:57 PM	Economic Support	Mr Dale Aiken	Small Business Owner - NC is now the 9th most populated state in the country. NC has the

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	Working Group		20th most cases of Coronavirus cases in the country. Therefore the citizens of NC have done a great job of containing the virus and will continue to act responsibly when business are re-opened. NC Government is overreaching and infringing upon our constitutional rights under the existing stay at home executive orders in place. So it's time for NC residents be allowed to open their business while acting responsibly to protect their customers.
04/24/2020 02:04 PM	Health Care Working Group	Freedom Education Keith Deltano	Only those with pre existing conditions and the very elderly die of COVID. Please let the rest of us out. Quarantine those at risk - not the rest of us.
04/24/2020 02:04 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Lisa Micheels	This shut down is killing our economy! Immediate action needs to be taken to stop the bleeding. Now our state is in need of triage!
04/24/2020 02:14 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Nancy McMurray	The Covid-19 restrictions have killed the NC tourism industry. No vacation rentals equals death to thousands of small businesses that depend on vacationers to keep their business healthy. A definitive and sensible end date needs to be announced. We cannot wait for this virus to be eradicated in order to open for business.
04/24/2020 02:15 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. Michael Payton	North Carolina needs to open. Once open, people who do not feel comfortable going out, can stay home. The more testing that's being done, the more cases you will have. If we do not open up North Carolina, there will be a huge recession. Congratulations Dan Forest, Roy Cooper's terrible response to this situation guarantees your win for governor. I can't wait to have you as governor Mr. Forest.
04/24/2020 02:35 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Laura Lassiter	Hi, My name is Laura Lassiter. I am a disabled young woman living in North Carolina with family. I do not have a small business story but this is affecting me mentally and emotionally because I feel like my freedom to move and see people that I love responsibly is being taken away from me. I already have to rely on people To assist me with most of my life activities, and sometimes, many times the social distancing is not possible due to my physical safety needs. I feel that this is an unnecessary government overreach which quite frankly directly undermines the US constitution and the principals the country was founded on. Furthermore we the people are not stupid and should be allowed to make our own choices for our bodies and health. If all our rights are taken away this is not what I signed up for and do not feel that we as human beings should be told how to conduct ourselves BY THE STATE or anyone for that matter. Responsible and respectful socializing is VITAL to my mental, emotional and spiritual well-being and I'm sure many others will agree. our FREEDOM TO MOVE AND EXPRESS ourselves RESPONSIBLY CAN, and should NOT continue to be infringed upon. Please stand for the people Thank you! Laura Lassiter
04/24/2020 02:36 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Misti Smith	You are killing our businesses!!!! Reopen our state NOW!!!!!! WE SHOULD AT LEAST BE IN PHASE 2. AT LEAST.
04/24/2020 02:40 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Candy Hess	For the love of all that is HOLY PLEASE open up the economy! The numbers do not bear out the suffering this is causing!
04/24/2020 02:45 PM	Health Care Working Group	Jill Jaynes	We are losing our incredible healthcare system in North Carolina for 486 patients hospitalized across the state for COVID19. We could house them all at Atrium Charlotte. It is untenable and unthinkable to continue the sweeping ban on elective and outpatient

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			procedures that our hospitals rely on to remain financially viable. Doctors, nurses and all healthcare workers are seeing their hours cut d/t forced lack of demand. This edict is a danger to the people of North Carolina. Annual physicals, visits, and outpatient procedures and surgeries MUST be allowed to resume post haste.
04/24/2020 02:48 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Please re-open our state Sarah Smith	Please reopen our state. Our families our suffering. Businesses are crumbling. People in need of ongoing medical care are being neglected. Many children are stuck at home inside without safe places to play, maybe without safe guardians or nutritious food. We need to reopen and get NC healthy again in ALL of the ways!!! 0.1% mortality for Covid does not merit this. PS-tell our governor to re-hang our American Flag!
04/24/2020 02:49 PM	Economic Support Working Group	mrs kim wilcenski	Get back to work so NC can get back to work! Where are you???
04/24/2020 02:50 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs Jessica Cook	OPEN UP OUR STATE and send our children back to school. Enough is enough. Stop ruining lives.
04/24/2020 02:55 PM	Health Care Working Group	Concern Mary Lee	At the daily briefing, I would like to see a County by County map with how many are hospitalized. I would like that map to include how many hospital beds each County has.
04/24/2020 02:58 PM	Education Working Group	Diane Scott	You need to lift these draconian measures. All jobs are essential. North Carolinians are suffering
04/24/2020 02:58 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Reopen North Carolina April Sparling	Please we need to re open our state of North Carolina. We cannot continue to live without jobs nor the proper education for our children. The economy is going to crash. This cannot last much longer. Not sure what the Gov is thinking. It needs to stop! We are We the people! The control has to stop. Thanks
04/24/2020 03:02 PM	Education Working Group	The Wrong Side of History Karen Arnold	Freedom comes with risk. There is no way to separate the two. Unfortunately, some people in our society are shortsighted or ignorant enough to think that taking away personal liberty is a reasonable price to ensure safety. I am heartbroken at what this mass hysteria has done to my country. I feel as if the government has fallen to a quiet coup. Please do anything you can to restore our freedom.
04/24/2020 03:13 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs. Liza Coutu	People need to be educated on how to be as safe as possible, how to support their immune systems to be as healthy as possible, and then they need to be able to make individual decisions about how to proceed. The current restrictions are overreaching and are often not based in common sense. We currently have treatments available to reduce the number of those needing to be hospitalized. The restrictions do not seem to be about avoiding overwhelming the medical system, however, since there are hospitals in our state which are furloughing employees for lack of work available. I support allowing people to reopen their businesses with safety guidelines. Start immediately with the counties which have been least hit, especially in those areas where even hospitals are suffering for lack of business. I see more harm coming from this shutdown than from COVID-19.
04/24/2020 03:17 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs Laura Tiece	Our dental office is likely going to fail when we run out of money to pay existing bills, like the water sewer and power bills along with the mortgage of our building! What are y'all

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			thinking? This is a violation of our ability to create commerce, to provide a service to our patients! Open NC NOW!!
04/24/2020 03:17 PM	Education Working Group	Ms. Christa Hutzler	REOPEN NC! Overturn Cooper's illegal and unconstitutional orders!
04/24/2020 03:23 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. James Norconk	Keeping this "Stay Home Stay Safe " order in place is killing this State. The resulting ramifications will to more harm then this disease ever will. On top of that our government has no right to pick winners an losers. This is America stop acting like it is not. Take a look at the Bill of Rights.
04/24/2020 03:26 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs Virginia Quaglia	Time to #reopenNC and set our people free! We want to work! We demand to feed our families and build our futures. Cooper is gonna keep delaying two more weeks, two more and two more until Election Day. We will not comply much longer. Imagine! In countries like Greece they protest to NOT work. We protest To be able to work. Amazing! We don't want government checks. We have been put in house arrest long enough. We demand the GOP take action to free us.
04/24/2020 03:28 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Courtney Sanford	Governor Cooper is abusing the office of governor by prohibiting businesses from operating. Please use your position to help the people of North Carolina whom you WORK FOR. Cooper's decisions are not based on evidence-- our hospitals have capacity, we know who is at risk. This has gone beyond health. He is using his office for political purposes only. We know the democrats will do anything to get rid of Trump. Even ruin their own state. He is clearly abusing power for political purposes. You must stop him. We will hold you accountable to your oath to work for the citizens. You are not there to abuse power for political purposes either. Do not let Cooper get away with this.
04/24/2020 03:28 PM	Education Working Group	Ashley King	<p>I was reading some posts for and against reopening the country. One was talking about being selfish and it got me to thinking.</p> <p>There are those wanting to reopen yet they're being classified as selfish. There are those healthy people who rely on all kinds of people to supply them while they sit safe at home for the foreseeable future. Isn't that being selfish too?</p> <p>You expect your garbage to be picked up, you expect the grocery store to be open so you can get milk, you expect truck drivers to supply the stores, you expect farmers, meatpackers, fruit and vegetable pickers all to keep food in that grocery store. You expect Amazon to still ship all the things you're ordering while you sit at home shopping. You expect the delivery driver to leave it on your doorstep. You expect your phone to work, your power to stay on, and your mail to show up rain, sleet, or shine. And most important, you expect the doctors and nurses to be there if you need them although many of them across the country have been furloughed because their units and services have been shut down while the entire system focuses only on COVID19.</p> <p>The whole premise of shelter in place is based on the arrogant idea that others must risk their health so you can protect yours. There is nothing virtuous about ignoring the largely invisible army required to allow people to shelter in place.</p> <p>I know there are some of you may be screaming mad about what I just said but stop and really think about what is allowing you to stay safe in your home.</p>

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			<p>I truly believe that with some common sense on my part, I could easily go back to life as it was. I want to go to restaurants, I want to shop at the little store just up the road. And yes, I could catch COVID-19. I could also catch the flu or a cold. I could get run over by a bus. I could get struck by lightning. We take risks everyday. If you choose to stay home, that is absolutely your choice. And please don't start screaming at me about how I'll just spread it. Why are you worried? You won't get it because you're staying in your home. Are you going to shelter in place every time a new strand of the flu happens?</p> <p>The entire purpose of the shelter-in-place idea was to let the healthcare system to prepare and to flatten the curve. It was not to eradicate the virus (impossible).</p> <p>Our economy can't withstand much more of this. If our economy collapses, so will the rest of the world's. If that happens, you will see the rise of tyrants.</p> <p>I absolutely don't want people to die...from COVID or anything else. I want people to live.</p> <p>But sheltering in place is not living.</p>
04/24/2020 03:30 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Joseph Paskiewicz	<p>It is time to Reopen NC! We will soon have ONE MILLION unemployed. Where is the state revenue going to come from? Lottery tickets? Alcohol sales? Small town North Carolina is dying! And for what? Life involves risk. Death is unavoidable. Even with the life saving measures enacted by state and federal government, the mortality rate for humans is still 100%. You are violating our constitutional rights by not overturning the governor's edict.</p> <p>Sec. 2. Sovereignty of the people. All political power is vested in and derived from the people; all government of right originates from the people, is founded upon their will only, and is instituted solely for the good of the whole.</p> <p>Sec. 5. Allegiance to the United States. Every citizen of this State owes paramount allegiance to the Constitution and government of the United States, and no law or ordinance of the State in contravention or subversion thereof can have any binding force.</p> <p>Sec. 7. Suspending laws. All power of suspending laws or the execution of laws by any authority, without the consent of the representatives of the people, is injurious to their rights and shall not be exercised.</p> <p>Sec. 12. Right of assembly and petition. The people have a right to assemble together to consult for their common good, to instruct their representatives, and to apply to the General Assembly for redress of grievances; but secret political societies are dangerous to the liberties of a free people and shall not be tolerated.</p> <p>Sec. 13. Religious liberty. All persons have a natural and inalienable right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own consciences, and no human authority shall, in any case whatever, control or interfere with the rights of conscience.</p> <p>Sec. 18. Court shall be open. All courts shall be open; every person for an injury done him in his lands, goods, person, or reputation shall have remedy by due course of law; and right and justice shall be administered without favor, denial, or delay.</p> <p>Sec. 21. Inquiry into restraints on liberty. Every person restrained of his liberty is entitled to a remedy to inquire into the lawfulness thereof, and to remove the restraint if unlawful, and that remedy shall not be denied or delayed. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus</p>

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			<p>shall not be suspended.</p> <p>Sec. 38. Right to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife. The right of the people to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife is a valued part of the State's heritage and shall be forever preserved for the public good.</p> <p>You are literally violating our every right by allowing the governor to apply these lockdown measures to the citizens of this state. It is time for you to take action!</p>
04/24/2020 03:30 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Dr. Ferdi Memelli	We need to reopen North Carolina as soon as possible. The COVID19 numbers in North Carolina simply do not justify keep a stranglehold on commerce and destroying livelihood. We are paying too high a price for model projections that turn out incorrect by the day. We will pay too high a price. Our children will pay too high a price. We need to reopen North Carolina.
04/24/2020 03:32 PM	Economic Support Working Group	kristin Parham	I strongly ask you to reconsider the shutdown for NC. 1. why after 6 weeks do we still not have the numbers on who has recovered. 2. How can we consider the number of deaths to be true when hospitals are told to put COVID19 as death when they did not test for it. 3. Why are we in shutdown when only .08% of our population has tested positive and 98% will recover at home???
04/24/2020 03:35 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Janell Henry	It is irresponsible for the North Carolina government to continue with the shuttering of businesses and its citizens livelihoods throughout the state. It is inconceivable to me that our representatives could be so one sided and so unfair. It's absolutely mind boggling.
04/24/2020 03:36 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Tonya Geren	We need our economy opened immediately. We have slightly over 8,000 cases among almost 11,000,000 people.
04/24/2020 03:43 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Linda Bunyan	The shutdown of small businesses in NC is more harmful to quality of life than is this virus. We need to work, feed our families. End this overreach by the governor.
04/24/2020 03:43 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Michael Dunkelberger	The longer businesses are shut down, the more business will never open.. The shutdown is crushing NC economically.
04/24/2020 03:51 PM	Economic Support Working Group		REOPEN
04/24/2020 03:57 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. Josh Drake	Please re-open our state.
04/24/2020 03:58 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Christina Custer	Reopen NC
04/24/2020 04:02 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections &	Mrs Lisa Yates	Everyday small businesses are closing for good. The data Governor Cooper supplied to NC residents was terribly flawed and lacked truthful resources. No transparency at all. Absolutely no accounts of anyone recovered and mentioned the test have been flawed.

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	Public Safety) Working Group		And we are just supposed to live with that? Anxiety and worry of what is to be expected is evolving. Placing nothing but fear in citizens providing no hope. I heard the following statement "A CEO on a webcast by the American Institute for Economic Research said "he would think twice about opening a plant in a state that had a Governor that would close down the state's economy based on flawed health data - and then keep it closed as the data errors became known." I can see why that would be a common issue for any new business no matter the type or size.. sad for our state! We need to REOPEN NC, now! We are prisoners locked down in our homes and the thought that our Governor is saying approximately 4-6 weeks for each stage only that we could possibly go back a phase is terrifying.
04/24/2020 04:04 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mary Blevins	Open NC small businesses and people cant stay at home forever.
04/24/2020 04:04 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr Thomas C WatsonIII	Reopen NC, now!
04/24/2020 04:15 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Bethany Armistead	You aren't following your oath to uphold the constitution. Reopen NC.
04/24/2020 04:18 PM	Health Care Working Group	Thomas Balek	The shutdown has had terrible mental health effects on many. My son, for instance, age 40 - totally blind - lives alone in a condo. He has lost his church, his friends, his gym visits, his volunteer gigs, his band gigs (he is a musician), his beloved sports events both live and on radio, his dining out, and most of his family contact. Imagine sitting alone, blind, every day listening to doom and gloom on the radio. Solitary confinement was abandoned by prisons as too inhumane! His mental health is deteriorating rapidly and I am afraid for him. Please stop the shutdown madness NOW!
04/24/2020 04:22 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Me. Daune Pitman	I fully expect those of you in the GA to strip Cooper of cresting executive orders. This has become a circus and you could stop it.
04/24/2020 04:24 PM	Economic Support Working Group	1958 Betty Bass	WE need our businesses open to prosper as they were. There has already been suicides happening and there will be more. COVID-19 is killing people maybe not as many as thought at first, but suicides, domestic violence, child abuse, more drug overdoses, breaking and entering homes as well as businesses that are not open. PLEASE OPEN OUR STATE BACK UP SO WE CAN LIVE OUR LIVES AND MAKE OUR ECONOMY GREAT AGAIN!!! It is our right to have our government to do what all of the citizens in the REOPEN NC Grassroots group is rallying for. PLEASE OPEN OUR STATE BACK UP!!!
04/24/2020 04:24 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Lori Oldham	The current Covid numbers do not warrant a total shutdown. Why treat our state like NY? It is not one size fits all. We can go to work and school and be cautious and stay healthy. Look at Sweden. They did it with out closing down. My house hold has not received ANY income since March 15th. Neither of us qualified for

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			unemployment and my husband was turned down for a Small Business Loan. The economy is dying.
04/24/2020 04:25 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr Ernest Roebuck	Open the state up!
04/24/2020 04:26 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms Catherine Rising	<p>I'm writing to express support for the 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 work on a hospital based Palliative Care team, and our hospital system has a great program to encourage patients, families and employees to complete an advance directive. Waiving the requirement for both a notary and two witnesses to be present would allow many more of these documents to be completed in a safe and valid way. Current visitor restrictions make it extremely difficult to notarize an advance directive for a hospitalized patient in our current pandemic, since there are so few visitors to serve as witnesses.</p> <p>A few years ago, my mother in Oregon wanted to update her advance directive. Oregon only required that two witnesses be present to sign the document. The process went very well, and was much more reasonable than North Carolina's current rules. South Carolina currently only requires two witnesses for an advance directive, and I'm not aware that their process has resulted in problems.</p> <p>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.</p>
04/24/2020 04:27 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Leanne Burns	There are facts to support opening NC for full business. We fulfilled our agreement to flatten the curve to remove the burden on hospitals. A lot has been learned about the virus. The current facts show a 0.02% death rate. There is a 98.6% survival rate. Those who have died have an average of 3 comorbidities, with many close to death. I also understand, as a health care provider, that many of the deaths were reclassified as covid 19 (skewint the numbers)in order to get MORE REIMBURSEMENT. In a normal day, this would be a violation of corporate compliance and Stark laws. Also note, that for every "case" (not necessarily sick), 100 North Carolinians have lost jobs. Anyone can sacrifice for a short time. We did it. Now our Constitutional rights are being trampled upon and the promise of short term pain is now a minimum of 18 MORE weeks. Stop this tyranny now. Let small businesses mitigate risks like they do every day to please customers and to put food on their table for their families. Restricting them now is unnecessary, destroys families, destroys lives, destroys NC tax bases, and puts more lives in danger than the virus itself. ReOPEN North Carolina by May 10.
04/24/2020 04:27 PM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Paul Smith	Medicaid expansion provides the answer for helping low income families to survive. It provides safety net health care to families who do not qualify for other forms of health insurance and it will bring jobs and federal dollars to our local economies. Bottom line it provides support for low-income employees who have lost their jobs due to COVID-19 or who are in that gap between Medicaid and ACA options. Any of could have been born into

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			circumstances where the hardships these folks experience could have been ours. Please do all you can to make Medicaid expansion available to them.
04/24/2020 04:28 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mr. Luke de Andrade	Thank you so much to Governor Cooper and NC State representatives for following the science to guide recommendations for reopening the State. We appreciate all that you do and thank you for safeguarding the lives of so many people vulnerable to this virus. I am one of the people most vulnerable, and despite the guidelines, people continue to gather in groups, not wear facemasks, and even cough/sneeze without covering it in some way when out in public. I can't imagine what would happen if we opened up early, because many can't follow the most simplistic rules to help spread this infection. Please continue your briefings and care that you are giving to the citizens of this great State.
04/24/2020 04:37 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Sharon Barrow	Open up NC. Save jobs
04/24/2020 04:38 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	End shutdown Patrick Turner	As I feel there is no point that I can make that has not already been made by thousands of people but I am not sure that the people of North Carolina will be able to continue to remain shut down on this level for another month no or even couple of weeks.
04/24/2020 04:42 PM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Lauren Livingston	It is past time for NC to expand Medicaid. Our most vulnerable patients are not protected even though the economic and public health benefits are well documented and public opinion is in favor. This needs to be a priority in the upcoming session.
04/24/2020 04:46 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Brandon Hendricks	Explain why you are not in session to uphold your constitutional duties to legislate while cooper is ruling by executive order? Voters will remember your inaction.
04/24/2020 04:57 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Jennifer Robinson	We need to reopen businesses ASAP. Small businesses are dying. I know since our family has a small business. We don't qualify for unemployment. Also, we need medical services to reopen ASAP. This includes dentists, health screenings, therapy services and surgeries. People are suffering from pain and illness because we can't get the treatments we need. Focus the closures on hot spot areas like nursing homes. But those of us who can work need to return to work! We don't want government handouts. Our state can not afford a "one size fits all" solution. Thank you for listening.
04/24/2020 05:02 PM	Health Care Working Group	Easing restrictions William Cook	Given the prevalence of antibody studies proving Covid-19 has a very low death rate, why haven't we reopened? In fact, we know that the disease is not deadly at all to those of working age. Why not reopen today? Vulnerable groups can continue to shelter in place.
04/24/2020 05:06 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Kimberly Dam	PLEASE reopen NC - the numbers of positive cases/deaths do not support our continued closed state! Especially when these deaths are added to covid totals when they clearly die from an unrelated cause. We don't want to be taken care of - we don't want stimulus checks.... we want to take care of our families on our own as we had before without ANY help from the government! We've got this... Gov. Cooper, if you'd like to keep your job (because it isn't looking good for you) let us get back to it and QUIT ruining our state!!! Thanks!
04/24/2020 05:15 PM	Economic Support	Ms. Deborah Fillman	My family and I listened attentively to Governor Cooper this week, and we sure did learn a

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	Working Group		<p>LOT: ?We've learned that COVID-19 is being treated as the equivalent of airborne-Ebola by this Governor, unless you're name is Roy Cooper. Then it's perfectly safe to hold press conferences without wearing a mask, using the same microphone as several other people, breathing within ONE foot of it, when someone else has just exhaled droplets all over it -- someone who regularly interacts with hospital staff and administrators who themselves regularly interact with COVID-19 patients.</p> <p>We've also learned it's still too dangerous to get a haircut at a salon that meets state health code regulations, but not to get a haircut sitting at the state house, or in the Governor's mansion, but only if your name is Roy Cooper. The part we're unclear about is why? Is it because whoever cuts his hair has special 6 foot-long arms? Or do they have their own personal PPE to wear while standing so close to the Governor, and (gasp) TOUCHING HIS HEAD? ??I mean, we know (because Dr. Cohen told us) that having a negative test result doesn't really mean anything; all you have to do is interact with ONE PERSON who has COVID-19, even if they're asymptomatic, and BAM! You're a carrier who could "kill" someone else! ??But Governor Cooper interacts with dozens of other people ever day, who go home to OTHER people, and may even shop at the essential stores, like the ABC...They may even hug and kiss family members, who themselves interact with OTHER people, and so on. Is he magically-protected??</p> <p>Another cool thing we learned was there's something new called "COVID-Like Syndrome," which sounds suspiciously like "Whatever it takes to get more money from the Federal gov't, and inflate both the case and death count without having to actually do our jobs and get the tests we promised over a month ago, cuz the CDC said we could."</p> <p>In the same vein, we've learned restoration of our civil rights will depend on a "reduction" across 14 days of ALL numbers related to COVID-19, when the original goal was "flattening the curve" of *hospital admissions,* so hospitals could ramp UP to handle the flow of cases needing treatment in the hospital. When did the goal changed, and who changed it? More importantly: WHY was it changed from "flatten the curve" to "keep everyone safe" and "save lives"??</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why does Dr. Cohen look so giddy all the time? Is this fun for her? Is she so sleep-deprived she's forgotten it's unseemly to be smiling and giggly while telling over 600,000 North Carolinians their hopes, dreams, livelihoods, health, retirements, and futures are "sacrifices" they have to make because of the threat of a virus that 98+% of *active cases* survive, and most people will never even know they have when they have it? 2. What is "remote learning?" Is that what our kids are supposed to be doing? I thought it was flailing around online in a confused, disjointed, disorganized, exercise in torture. 3. Why do the people of this state have to politely tolerate being called "non-essential" to this state's economy? No serious person who can do math really believes that. Surely the people who collect and spend tax monies must be cognizant of the amount of REVENUE they're losing every day we're locked down??Surely every member of the GA, Democrats as well as Republicans, understands budgets will have to be cut? Pretty soon, *government employees* will become aware of the consequences of this policy. Since many of them think it's appropriate to publicly and smugly scold members of #ReopenNC for wanting to provide for themselves, their families and employees, without handouts from government, or loans they'll have to repay, I can't say I'll feel too sorry for them.? <p>It has been an enlightening week, that's for sure! ??Next week, the General Assembly</p>

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			returns to Raleigh, and I sincerely hope you will remember your oaths of office when you do. You didn't take an oath to protect us from a virus, of any kind, least of all one that is survivable by the VAST majority of the people who get it. ??Governor Cooper is destroying the lives of hundreds of thousands of North Carolinians. It's morally, ethically, and we believe, legally wrong. The time has come to reopen the state, and to put Roy Cooper in his proper place; as Governor, not KING.??Thank you for getting us back to work, and back to our lives by May 1st as originally planned. ??Sincerely, ?Deborah R Fillman
04/24/2020 05:19 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Franklin Dance	By May 1st NC needs to be opened back up. It is time for people to go back to work to support their families and to keep small businesses from closing for good. Failure to do so could result in families running out of money to fee their families. There are plenty of businesses that are opened that have not caused the virus to rapidly spread. Businesses will do what they need to do to keep their employees and customers as safe as possible. It is time to reopen NC
04/24/2020 05:21 PM	Economic Support Working Group	mrs chelsea le chatelier	end the shut down! let the people of nc go back to work! this isn't constitutional at all!
04/24/2020 05:35 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Roy Cooper Susanne Walters	I saw today where the DOJ will start siding with citizens from certain states about the restrictions the Governor is doing to the people. Roy is on a power trip and he needs to start considering how this shut down is affecting us. People can't withstand his actions. OpenNC now.
04/24/2020 05:37 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mr. William Brennan	I am a senior citizen (76) living in Oriental, NC. I am greatly concerned that while I have access to excellent health care in my retirement years through the Medicare health program , there remain hundreds of thousands of lower income NC citizens - non-seniors and children - who do not have employment-related insurance and do not qualify for the Medicaid health program. This is a horrific situation. They have no coverage. So when they go to the doctor or a hospital they are charged incredibly high fees for services which they cannot pay. They remain uninsured, uncovered. By voting to expand Medicaid in NC under the Affordable Care Act the NC General Assembly could solve this problem without too much cost. I recommend this be done immediately to alleviate the unbearable harm and suffering. Even if it were costly, and it's not, do this for the NC citizens who need the coverage in this country in this modern age.
04/24/2020 05:59 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Todd Harr	Eliminate the designation "essential" for business types. All positions are essential, or they wouldn't exist. Citizens should maintain the right to work; even if only in a diminished capacity. A free people must be afforded the opportunity to take responsibility for their actions!
04/24/2020 06:05 PM	Health Care Working Group	Gerardo Rivera	I support Medicaid expansion to provide healthcare coverage to the previously uninsured as well as those who have lost coverage as a result of losing their jobs in the Covid crisis.
04/24/2020 06:06 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Gerardo Rivera	I support providing paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all impacted workers, including "gig workers," as well as support for vulnerable small businesses.
04/24/2020 06:07 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working	Gerardo Rivera	I support allowing citizens of North Carolina to exercise their right to vote without risking their health or their lives, and making voting more accessible to all voters, by: o making voting by mail more accessible;

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	Group		<p>o increasing public promotion of absentee vote-by-mail option; and</p> <p>o ensuring free return mail postage on absentee ballots.</p>
04/24/2020 06:16 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Randy Novia	I am a furloughed worker getting paid for 1 day per week to cover benefits. Therefore I am ineligible for both state and federal funds due to my 1 day pay and maxing out the UI benefit. Can you please decouple the Federal Funds so that the eligibility is NOT dependent on the state eligibility? I will get about \$20 after taxes and benefits and that has me ineligible but also unable to feed my family? We are better than this as NC residents! Happy to discuss...
04/24/2020 06:21 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Pat Smith	There is no law that grants ANY NC "Elected by the People" official to shut down commerce in this state! Especially when it is only selective commerce, while other businesses are open and thriving! This is authoritarianism, not constitutionalism!
04/24/2020 06:41 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Ed Stephenson	<p>Mr. Berger,</p> <p>I am emailing in regards to the service industry and entertainment workers. We are a large constituent.</p> <p>We will be voting this time and we will vote you out of office.</p> <p>At this point with the science and data so far it is clear there should be mitigation and isolation for vulnerable populations. Everyone under the age of 40 should not be isolated or kept out of the workforce. At risk groups should be isolated and treated with prophylactic use of hydroxychloroquine, Z-pac, and zinc.</p> <p>The service and entertainment worker have been directly impacted by your actions and they will vote you out of office.</p>
04/24/2020 06:54 PM	Health Care Working Group	John Goryance	Need to move our economy moving. Details and guidelines then trust of citizens to make it happen
04/24/2020 06:57 PM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Grier Harris	Thank you, Governor Cooper for placing our citizens' health and well-being above commercial interests! We support you!
04/24/2020 06:59 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mr. Adam Larmore	Open the state ! The cure is worse than the virus. (Not to mention the government overreach involved here) It's time !
04/24/2020 07:14 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	MR Joel Souther	Open the state back up already. Thanks to this tyrannical, unconstitutional abuse of power, I am now losing my job. That's less taxes for you Roy. Instead I'll be collecting unemployment.
04/24/2020 07:18 PM	Education Working Group	Teacher Catherine Marsh	Yes it would be nice to have health insurance. The money I make is not covering my expenses with my kids at home from school or when they are at school
04/24/2020 07:26 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs. Kathleen Ferrell	This "crisis" has gone on long enough. The people of NC are being treated like inmates in a prison. Land of the free? This is insane.

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04/24/2020 07:33 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Gilbert Jones	If we wait months to fully reopen NC, there will be nothing left to open. Cooper and Democrats are trying to make us all wards of the state. The legislature needs to immediately investigate whether all of the laws have been followed in issuing his executive order. The you need to file suit in federal court to protect the civil rights of North Carolinians. Cooper is a guy who thinks that Voter ID is unconstitutional but bankrupting North Carolina businesses and individuals is okay. Cooper needs to read a history book. There are transitions in power when the economy is in shambles and people can't get what they need to live. This is what brought Hitler and FDR to power. It can happen anywhere. It will soon happen here if we don't change course. Cooper needs to experience what North Carolinians are living. He needs to check everyday to see how much money he has left. He needs to go to Food Lion and see if they have any bread or ground beef today. He needs to wrestle for the toilet paper at Wal-Mart. He needs to explain to children why they can't go anywhere. He needs to sit at home 24 hours a day and watch some CNN puppet talk about what a great job the government is doing. He needs to leave the Executive Mansion and see what the world is like.
04/24/2020 07:37 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Kylie Crowley	Reopen NC!! We cannot allow our state to crash when the death rate is incredibly low. The vulnerable should be able to stay home Just as much as the healthy should be able to work. We can children to feed. The money will run out. It is our Constitutional Right to work and live freely.
04/24/2020 07:40 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Jay Styron	I don't think the virus is a hoax but I do think we need to be planning how to open up the economy. Many people are willing to weight the risk in order to bring home a paycheck and pay their bills. Many of the people that have been protesting in NC do understand the risk and based on age and overall health, are willing to "normalize" their lives. I understand the flip-side - the people protesting may unintentionally spread the virus - but there is something to be said for exposure to a virus to help build antibodies. There is a great podcast - TWiV - that has been tracking a lot of the immunology and potential for vaccine development. Most researchers say a vaccine, at the best, would be a year out. We can't shut down for a year. And, per an immunologist from NIH (interview on TWiV), the vaccine will probably be more in line with the annual flu vaccine as coronaviruses tend to shift/ mutate and a "one size fits all, one shot and done" vaccine is highly unlikely. So, if this becomes an annual flu/COVID season we will have to learn to live in that environment. Continuing social distancing is fine, but we can't stay locked up month after month. Let's get NC back to work. The governor's extension of the stay at home order until May 8 was a gross miscarriage of his power.
04/24/2020 07:46 PM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Nora Dennis	Please do not make any attempt to open NC before Dr. Mandy Cohen advises. We need strong medical and epidemiological leadership behind any decisions to reopen the state.
04/24/2020 07:53 PM	Economic Support Working Group		Open NC!!!
04/24/2020 07:55 PM	Health Care Working Group	Rebecca Addison	There is no remaining logical or scientific reason to keep our state on lockdown. Our rights have been suspended illegally. Reopen the state. ReopenNC
04/24/2020 08:02 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Mike Messick	Please pass legislation to override the governors illegal, dangerous and economically catastrophic closure of our free state. It is beyond believable that he is being allowed to

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04/24/2020 08:05 PM	Education Working Group	John Memoli	take this tyrannical action due to what amounts to no more than a seasonal flu. had a thought today, while cleaning. Our leaders aren't just overruling the Bill of Rights, the Constitution, or the Founding Fathers. They're deeming to overrule he who gave us those God given rights.
04/24/2020 08:20 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Patricia Rnay	While you p,iticians are relaxing fat, dumb, and happy, the poor souls who are trying to: make a living, the little people, are desperately struggling to keep,their businesses alive. What is wrong with you people ... the small businesses who need us the most are not getting our help. It's a disgrace. How do you think the hairdressers, the nail people, and small businesses are surviving? Really!
04/24/2020 08:21 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mr Aaron McClellan	Governor Cooper is not for N.C. He is not doing what is best for the people. I urge you to take action! #ReopenNC
04/24/2020 08:27 PM	Economic Support Working Group	9806354491 Lane Huie	Reopen North Carolina now.
04/24/2020 08:36 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Gretchen M Woos	Not sure what the category above is representing, but I believe we need to open our state based on the area. Many towns do not represent the larger coyotes when it come to the COVID virus.
04/24/2020 08:39 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Nancy Goldstein	it is time to stop the bull crap and open the state.
04/24/2020 08:45 PM	Economic Support Working Group	9103997624 Rhonda Florian	Open North Carolina now! Roy Cooper is decimating our businesses and families. He is turning North Carolina into a ravaged moonscape which never recover. How many families will become homeless? How many children will starve? How many businesses will become bankrupt? How many North Carolinians will commit suicide? How many will suffer from lack of needed healthcare? How many destroyed North Carolinians does it take to satisfy Roy Cooper's lust for power? Roy Cooper wants to crush North Carolina and keep its citizens cowering in fear so that he can seize control of our election through election fraud. He's kicking us when we're down so he can seize control of the upcoming election with mail in voting and ballot harvesting. Don't let this happen. Don't let Roy Cooper hold North Carolina hostage for another day. Don't let him steal our livelihoods and our future.
04/24/2020 08:56 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Donna Howard	If you're going to shut down most of North Carolina, why not just shut the whole state down? I mean why is it that essential workers lives are not important? I still have to go to work everyday but nobody seems to care about me. Is my life not important? Reopen North Carolina if you're not going to save everybody.
04/24/2020 09:04 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections &	Margaret Henderson	Amidst the coronavirus pandemic (and even shortly after it is technically defined as a pandemic), I am counting on my representatives in the NC General Assembly to support options for safe avenues for voting - the most critical act of our democracy. Therefore I

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	Public Safety) Working Group		expect them to support online voting and, obviously, mail-in ballots for our upcoming elections in order to ensure that as many voters' voices are counted as is possible. This is the patriotic action. The good people of NC know when their leaders are working for them, and they know when they are not. This is a no-brainer. Thank you for doing the right thing.
04/24/2020 09:10 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Laura Haldane	Data on the NC HHS website today show 7 NC counties with 0 (zero) COVID-19 cases and) 0 deaths. Another 20 counties have 10 or fewer cases--cumulative cases; most likely not all are active cases. Forty-two (42) counties have 0 deaths. Another 16 counties have had only 1 death. This is 58 of NC's 100 counties with 0 or 1 death. It is clear the entire state is not in the same situation as Mecklenburg and Duke. These counties should be allowed to enter phase one if they choose to do so. Counties with zero or extremely low COVID-19 activity should not have to wait for cases to decline in hot spots.
04/24/2020 09:32 PM	Economic Support Working Group	David Rollins	I was under the impression that our state constitution required any Executive orders to be approved by a type of committee that included the Lt. Governor and select members of the General Assembly. I am also under the impression that the Governor by-passed this protocol and is in violation of state constitutional law. Would like some understanding in this matter
04/24/2020 09:50 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Kimberley Hardy	<p>CNN states In Cooper's interview on April 24th that Fox News and the President are egging on these protestors to Reopen. Trying to get his attention. The reporter states to Cooper " You acknowledge there are people hurting out there so What is your message to the protestors. " Cooper responds "I know you are frustrated, I know that people are tired at being home, I know that 725,000 North Carolinan's have filed for unemployment insurance and many families are hanging by a thread, but we also know this is a life or death situation and we have to make the call about protecting lives first. We can do things to help the economy; we want to put those unemployment payments into the system , we want to get the stimulus money there, we have let a lot of other essential businesses continue to run, and that's important and hopefully it can get us through this period of time.</p> <p>But we have to listen to the scientist. And My 3 phase program will get us back to a new normal realizing that we're not going to be able to get rid of this until we get a vaccine. So we are going to have to learn to live in a different way, learn to make our economy work in a different way and we are going to have to do it through phases. Etc etc about school announcement today of remote learning. Then the CNN reporter states "let us know if we need to shine a light on anything that he made need for NC from the federal government. " Please reign in our Governor and demand that he put us into phase 1 under the guidelines of the federal government and NOT his phase 3 plan. Plus remind him we do not need a 30 day supply of PPE and testing, he only needs the 14 day supply recommended by our federal government. He does not need to stockpile anything and he should get what he has been given by our federal government to the local counties immediately. We are not frustrated or tired of staying at home , we as responsible citizens have and will continue to protect others, help others and do what is necessary to fight this virus. But our curve is flat and actually we never spiked. It is time to put into motion today the phases of reopening North Carolina. This virus is not the "life and death" situation he is trying to make it out to be. Our death rate as of April 21 was 3.3%, yes one death is too many, but it is not to the extreme that Cooper is trying to imply. He continues to imply that we will have a "new" normal in our lives. He needs to stop saying this. We will have a "temporary" normal until this virus is either contained or eradicated. His comments put fear into the citizens.</p>

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04/24/2020 09:51 PM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Iva Nusbaum DVM	I am appalled that our Governor does not understand that us healthy essential workers understand the science of coronavirus. We should all be working without restrictions. There is a 98% recovery rate and 0.003% chance of death. It was not necessary to have lockdown for healthy citizens for this is tyranny. Definitely isolate those sick is called quarantine. Our immune systems protect us in our daily environment. We do not need to wait for a vaccine. We need to open our state and get back to work, back to school and live our lives as Americans with all our civil liberties.
04/24/2020 11:07 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Lucy Lewis	I support opening up ONLY when indicators show that we can do so safely; maintaining social distancing and mask precautions as long as needed (vaccines widely available and/or good treatment options) . Election options need to include mail-in ballots available to every voter and extended early voting to reduce lines. Thank you for keeping NC safe.
04/24/2020 11:19 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Andrea Peede	I am well aware that CoVid is a serious matter, but so is the livelihood of our state. Please push Gov. Cooper to open our businesses and respect our right a make choices for ourselves I truly believe that people will take care of each other. One example, my hairdresser was observing extra disinfecting measures on a voluntary basis before she was shut down on March 25th. If she is allowed to reopen, I know she will go above and beyond and if she doesn't, then I have sense enough to choose another stylist. We are not ignorant and given correct reliable information we can make intelligent choices.
04/24/2020 11:34 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Beth Gillespue	Dear Governor Cooper, I'm very concerned that we are still at home even though the reason why we are home, to not overwhelm the hospitals, was accomplished. This virus is here to stay, we need to boost immunity naturally to build resistance to it. Keeping us at home will not change Nor help that fact. It concerns me that our economy is failing, and that we can't trust our elected officials. I see a video taken at a press conference and the reporters don't realize it's on. The first one comes in and says to the other no need to wear the mask, the numbers were wrong, mortality rate is only .11 which is about what the regular flu is. I see fake nurses crying about not enough masks, video from other countries hospitals being passed off as our own. We aren't using methods of cures that we know work, but instead we let people die. This is not acceptable. We see governments trample in the Constitution of the United States of America. A Constitution fought and paid for with the blood and sacrifice of many courageous men and women. But, that freedom is being traded for political gain and an agenda of big pharma and greed. Did you not take an oath to defend and protect that Constitution and the rights of the citizens who elected you? The virus is here and will remain, however the livelihoods and well being of thousands of others just might not survive. Our state and country need to open ASAP and the media needs to stop terrorizing the citizens with fear and lies. we cannot live our lives in fear. Stand up for us against the terrorism of the media and the agenda to destroy our country. We need to get our economy back before it's too late. Thank you.
04/24/2020 11:34 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Beth Gillespue	Dear Governor Cooper, I'm very concerned that we are still at home even though the reason why we are home, to not overwhelm the hospitals, was accomplished. This virus is here to stay, we need to boost immunity naturally to build resistance to it. Keeping us at home will not change Nor help that fact. It concerns me that our economy is failing, and that we can't trust our elected officials. I see a video taken at a press conference and the reporters don't realize it's on. The first one comes in and says to the other no need to wear

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			the mask, the numbers were wrong, mortality rate is only .11 which is about what the regular flu is. I see fake nurses crying about not enough masks, video from other countries hospitals being passed off as our own. We aren't using methods of cures that we know work, but instead we let people die. This is not acceptable. We see governments trample in the Constitution of the United States of America. A Constitution fought and paid for with the blood and sacrifice of many courageous men and women. But, that freedom is being traded for political gain and an agenda of big pharma and greed. Did you not take an oath to defend and protect that Constitution and the rights of the citizens who elected you? The virus is here and will remain, however the livelihoods and well being of thousands of others just might not survive. Our state and country need to open ASAP and the media needs to stop terrorizing the citizens with fear and lies. we cannot live our lives in fear. Stand up for us against the terrorism of the media and the agenda to destroy our country. We need to get our economy back before it's too late. Thank you.
04/25/2020 03:14 AM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. John Canipe	The whole purpose of the shutdown was NEVER to STOP COVID-19 but to be sure our healthcare system was not overwhelmed. It has not been or even close! Further shut down of businesses will NOT prevent the spread of the virus, just slow the spread, prolong the fear and agony and economically destroy more families and businesses. Eventually just as many will end up getting it! Reopen businesses allow people to make their own choices whether to go out or not. IF you are going to test, test for antibodies to see how prevalent the virus already is. I'm sure it will be MUCH greater because it has already spread and you just don't realize it. These numbers will eventually allow everyone to realize that the mortality rate is MUCH closer to that of influenza and we have correctly NOT shut down the country for that each year. REOPEN NC NOW completely!
04/25/2020 08:04 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Kristin Terry	OPENNC, the numbers do NOT support continued isolation.
04/25/2020 08:39 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Aaron McClellan	The governor's plan is not acceptable!! We the people will take back our state!! I urge you to rethink the position of N.C. and #ReopenNC now!
04/25/2020 08:45 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Dr. Rebecca Wartman	STAY AT HOME is a very good thing right now. The data shows that if we stay home longer, we will avoid serious increase in this virus that is both deadly and largely not understood. I do not like this disruption anymore than anyone else but it does save lives. I want to thank the entire DHHS team, particularly Dr. Cohen and Dr. Dowler for their very hard work and dedication to keeping NC Safe. So a little longer, please. The Governor's plan is SOLID!!
04/25/2020 08:50 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Kristen Elizabeth	REOPEN OUR STATE!
04/25/2020 08:55 AM	Economic Support Working Group	REOPEN NC Jennifer Hall	DEATHS OF DESPAIR! Do these lives not matter to you? All the people calling the suicide hotline? All the domestic violence victims? All of the hungry children? All of the businesses that will not be able to reopen, which will lead to depression and possible more calls to the hotline and worse? THE CURE CAN NOT BE WORSE THAN THE VIRUS< but it is. You have already made sure of that. Do the right thing. Reign in your pride. Put

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			the PEOPLE first and REOPEN NC.
04/25/2020 09:04 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Stay at home order So-shu Seitzler	Enough is enough. Weve done our part. The cure is becoming worse than the disease and the curve is flattened. We didnt do this so no one would get it. We did it to slow the spread and we have a right to work! To feed our families. To have a roof over our heads! Give us back our freedom to choose and to live and work!!
04/25/2020 09:09 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ella Frantz	Please provide resources for making Vote By Mail accessible and easy for all voters in NC. This is critical to hear the voice of the people and abide by our state constitution.
04/25/2020 09:11 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ella Frantz	Please expand Medicaid so all North Carolinians can have the healthcare they deserve. We can and should do better.
04/25/2020 09:15 AM	Health Care Working Group	Shelter in place Cord Wartman	NC should continue shelter in place, social distancing and restrictions on public gatherings as long as necessary to insure the curve is flattened and to protect our most vulnerable. The governor's plan is a good one, and is what the state should work for.
04/25/2020 09:24 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Fran Spinola	<p>Governor Cooper is keeping our state on lockdown and using faulty information to do so. And why is every state surrounding Georgia EXCEPT North Carolina working together to reopen safely?</p> <p>The health models are just plain wrong. Many more people have already been exposed to the virus, thus making the death rate even lower. And there are other models showing 98% of those with Covid recover. Why isn't the state sharing recovery data?</p> <p>And why has Cooper been claiming he needs more help from the federal government when he could have been working with partners and scientific companies right here in NC to obtain what is needed? Other governors have been much more proactive. It seems it's to Cooper's advantage to buy into the fear-mongering.</p> <p>Do something! Please.</p>
04/25/2020 09:31 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mr. Brad Bullerdick	I am very concerned that we do not have a plan to re-open North Carolina and continue to suffer severe economic damage, some of which may not be repairable or will be years in the process. We should certainly be opening up the beaches for local residents and as a minimum small businesses in counties where the virus cases are minimal or under control. Unless you take action, the cure will be worse than the disease.
04/25/2020 09:59 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	KATE FIX	I support Governor Coopers decisions regarding keeping the state closed. We must not cripple our health system with a flood of Covid-19 patients.
04/25/2020 10:01 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Cassandra Little	As a former healthcare worker at Duke University Hospital, I implore you to not be bullied or pressured into re-opening our state too soon. I know many people are in economic hardships, but if we dont do this smart, we will be right back here in a matter of months. Let's work towards re-opening, BUT ONLY IN A SAFE MANNER listening to the advise of our medical and science community.

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04/25/2020 10:08 AM	Education Working Group	Ms. Barbara Wallace	We need to shelter in home until the phases the Governor' COVID team established. I'm in a 2000 person school. Until the curve is flattened, we should not return to school or non-essential businesses. Honestly, law enforcers needs to enforce shelter in home. Here in my County, some businesses are not observing social distancing.
04/25/2020 10:31 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Jonathan Bianco	<p>Why are the citizens shut off from "closed door discussions" here in Meck County?</p> <p>the original plan to "flatten the curve" was in an effort not to overwhelm the hospitals, you have had and will have the necessary hospital beds in the state to handle a so-called surge.</p> <p>plus Atrium health has set up tents to support that "surge" in the unlikely event that it does happen.</p> <p>So I ask, if the majority of hospitalizations are older adults 53% over the age of 50 with underlying conditions.</p> <p>Why are we under such a EO that there is a 96.7% rate of recovery?</p> <p>Why are businesses shut down? People required to collect unemployment? The list goes on.</p> <p>For a population of 10.5 million citizens and with 269 deaths (again all over 60 years older and underlying chronic health conditions) we should not succumb to this EO any longer and it is overstepping CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS as American citizens</p>
04/25/2020 10:34 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Colleen Combs	<p>Conduct zoom meetings with groups of businesses. Ask them to construct a plan for reopening safely. Safely doesn't mean no further infections but it does mean keeping icus from being overrun. Once a plan is developed for conducting, business safely, encourage them to reopen whether the gov likes it or not.</p> <p>Pursue legislation to restrain any additional mandatory stay at home orders, they're unconstitutional.</p> <p>Let people reopen if they want to, let people patronize when they want to.</p>
04/25/2020 10:41 AM	Education Working Group	Mrs Catherine Hampson	I am a NC public school teacher. I am very concerned by the idea that some people keep putting forward that schools should reopen early/first because children are 'not affected' by Coronavirus. While school age children may tend to be asymptomatic, this broad generalization and gross misunderstanding of fact leaves alot of nuance by the wayside. Students may develop asymptotically; however, most teachers, administrators and support staff are in the high risk category. Students can develop complications from CoVid 19 and suffer the consequences of that, up to and including death. Finally, I would go so far as to suggest almost all students will have contact with individuals outside of school with persons in the high risk category. Remote learning is possible, it's safe, and it is the future of education, this could be an opportunity for NC to regain our standing as a state that leads in public education. Develop quality internet as a public utility through out NC, and let parents CHOOSE an online or in person education for their child, making this option as easy and convenient as enrolling in physical schools. This would reduce class

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			size in school buildings, possibly allowing for appropriate social distance that is simply not an option at this time. It would end educational equity issues currently plaguing so much of the remote learning process. It would also protect educators and staff by allowing them the same options afforded to students and families in this scenario, whether to be in the building or to perform their duties with technology.
04/25/2020 11:26 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Jeffrey Schmidt	I urge the General Assembly to listen to medical and scientific experts when determining the proper path going forwards. COVID-19 is not a joke, and we are all going to need support from the state to maintain stay-at-home guidelines. This is an opportunity to make sure our state has robust safety nets for this and all future social crises.
04/25/2020 12:04 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Bob Bradley	I support a slow, data driven approach that protects lives over expedited opening for economic purposes. My small business is closed. NO financial support available. Will not have any opportunity to revive it this year. Follow the plan and don't reopen early.
04/25/2020 12:13 PM	Health Care Working Group	Sena Crutchley	I am a healthcare worker (Speech-Language Pathologist) and, although my current employer allows me to provide services via telehealth, I worked in skilled nursing less than 2 years ago. Based on my experience and interest in public health, I appreciate that NC has chosen to reduce the risk of contracting COVID-19 for our citizens and especially our most vulnerable humans. The stay-at-home order is appropriate, and I trust Dr. Mandy Cohen and her team to determine when it is safe to begin reopening beyond jobs deemed essential.
04/25/2020 12:20 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs. Donna Sandifer	We think Gov. Cooper has done an excellent job addressing this crisis. Before any reopening can occur, there needs to be widespread testing available for all, tracing and more containment. The ReopenNC protesters have valid concerns; however, with rights come responsibilities! The responsibility is to others, in protecting their safety and health while helping yourself economically. State government should adopt the same and stop political divides for the health and safety for those they serve.
04/25/2020 12:26 PM	Health Care Working Group	Maureen Garde	I fully support Governor Cooper's ongoing orders and efforts to keep North Carolina citizens as safe as possible during the pandemic emergency through evidence-based decision making.
04/25/2020 12:42 PM	Health Care Working Group	Dr Joanne Wilson	We must follow the guidance of our local and national infectious diseases health care specialists who have made rational recommendations for phased relaxation of restrictions. Our future is at stake and lives can not be replaced. I support Governor Cooper and his plans.
04/25/2020 12:59 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group		<p>It's time to allow folks out. Every citizen doesn't need to be on lockdown. Each day more and more stories are coming out revealing strong evidence that many folks already had it without ever knowing. Additionally look at Sweden...NO LOCKDOWN.</p> <p>You want to protect those with weak immune systems, elderly, etc? Keep restrictions in place for THEM.</p> <p>This allows for others to avoid losing jobs,businesses, and homes. This also prevents continued mental health damage done by this unnecessary order.</p> <p>Open gyms. Open all parks. Open beaches for relaxation. Open fitness centers. Open pools.</p>

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04/25/2020 01:01 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Keep NC Safe! Melissa Houck	If we reopen too soon, it will ultimately be worse for the economy, as the number of cases will spike. As long as the number of cases continues to increase, we should continue to stay home and self quarantine.
04/25/2020 01:02 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. Robert Schultz	We must not imperil the lives of our citizens by making it difficult for them to vote by mail while we're dealing with a deadly pandemic. Making it more burdensome to vote by mail than to stand in voting lines with people who may be infected is not just an obvious ploy to keep people from exercising their right to vote; it is also a really nonsensical, puzzling and disturbing strategy that needlessly puts voters, and those with whom they come in contact, in physical and life-threatening danger, not to mention the strain it will put on healthcare workers and systems, budgets and the economy when people get sick due to coronavirus illnesses they contract standing in voting lines or touching infected desks or pens at the polling site. While we don't know what the status of the pandemic will be in the fall, we do know there's a very good chance we will still be dealing with it, and we need to begin preparing for that NOW. This is a health and safety issue, AND a democracy issue, and we should provide simpler, and easier access to vote by mail options to "promote the general welfare, to protect the health of our society, AND to protect democracy.
04/25/2020 01:12 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Patricia Wilson	<p>I must say that once the Governor made it clear all staff working in essential services (Groceries, Lowes for seed and plants, etc) should wear masks (two weeks ago I think) I thought people would. That is still not true. I have been by Lowe's in Smithfield N C. Not everyone is wearing masks (this would be patrons,, the number wearing masks looked to be less than 30 percent. I do not think this good enough for patrons). Hundred of people still milling around and 70 percent not wearing masks in parking lot... or wearing them incorrectly. I do not go into stores (as usually get curb side service),,but I did note from outside that the people in Lowes are trying. (marking of 6 feet , Adding plastic shields (or at least I think they did) for clerks. But I still say You need to have inspectors that have a check list and they need to play detective with these people or we will stay in the woods forever, Also not everybody was wearing masks at Dollar Store in Micro either. And at Lowe' s (Smithfield)maybe they are controlling number of people entering and maintaining 5 people per 1000, Square feet. But did not look like that in garden center. Meanwhile it looked like Food Lion had good control. And hardware stores in Clayton do their business outside instead of inside. Curb service might be the safest. And I think the Garden Centers at Lowes in Smithfield could easily expand more items into parking lot. (as they do that with some shrubs.). Sincerely, Patricia S. Wilson concerned citizen. I want us to win...!</p> <p>I am not a detective just a person that would love to see us flatten the mountain much faster and do not want o stay in all summer especially if any chance this will come back on us in the fall! see The Spanish Flu history). Sincerely, Patti Wilson</p>
04/25/2020 03:12 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Villegas	<p>Members of the House Select Committe on COVID 19</p> <p>My wife Elizabeth and I are writing to follow up on a prior comment. This comment is sent to add our voices to that of the State Board of Election (SBE). On March 26, 2020, the SBE submitted 15 recommendations that will improve the ability of the State to effectively and fairly administer elections in North Carolina, especially during this pandemic, which is likely to reignite in the Fall along with seasonal influenza.</p>

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			I request that all of the recommendations included in that memorandum be adopted in full and wish to incorporate them into this comment by reference. (Memo: Recommendations to Address Election-Related Issues Affected by COVID 19 dated March 26, 2020, signed by Keren Brinson Bell, Executive Director, State Board of Elections.)
04/25/2020 03:56 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Regina Sullivan	Re open NC. THIS IS INFRINGING ON OUR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS
04/25/2020 04:10 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Kathy Tew	There is no logical reason for Governor Cooper to extend or even continue his stay at home order. By his own admission we have flattened the curve and our hospitals have NOT been overrun, spring is upon us and according to DHS and John Hopkins University the virus is very sensitive to heat, sunlight and humidity which we have plenty of in NC. By closing down NC the governor has put 500,00 people out of work and closed (maybe permanently) many small businesses, he has said that we the people are not capable of taking care of ourselves, that our civil liberties do not matter. It is imperative that the governor opens NC now, not months from now. At this point in time I am more fearful of a government taking my rights and liberties and the ensuing economic catastrophe than a virus.
04/25/2020 04:26 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Amelia Zytka	The Governor's stay at home order is unconstitutional. We do not live in a socialist regime and we will not tolerate it. It is illegal to go to church, but we can still go to Home Depot. We can't go to work to make a living, but we still need to pay taxes. We can't pay for our bills or our mortgage because we are out of a job. Millions of people could lose their homes because of the stay at home order and have no home to stay home in.
04/25/2020 04:35 PM	Health Care Working Group	David Shoemaker	Until sufficient testing capacity is attained in NC to allow for immediate testing of suspected COVID-19 infected individuals to allow for quarantining of the infected individuals rather than the entire state population it makes no sense to reopen the state businesses to any appreciable extent.
04/25/2020 04:57 PM	Education Working Group	Ms. Laura Haldane	More emphasis needs to be given to strengthen our immune systems—what we used to call keeping your resistance up. The overwhelming majority of people who have died from COVID-19 have weakened immune systems. Everyone can benefit from getting plenty of sunshine and fresh air, eating a healthful diet, and getting adequate sleep. Research has demonstrated that being outdoors enhances our immunity. Sunshine, fresh air, heat and humidity can break down viruses in minutes, making outdoor environments generally safer than indoor ones. Closing parks is counterproductive. Fear and uncertainty create and feed stress. Stress and depression inhibit our immune systems. Guidance for coping with stress, depression, and other mental health issues; as well putting greater emphasis on the need to strengthen immune systems would probably save more lives than keeping healthy young people locked up in their homes.
04/25/2020 05:00 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mr Bland Simpson	Writing in full support of Governor Cooper's shelter in place/shutdown order! Bland Simpson Chapel Hill, NC
04/25/2020 05:05 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections &	Mr. Bland Simpson	I am writing in full support of North Carolina's voting by mail in Fall 2020 IF state and/or federal public health leadership deem in-person voting in November too dangerous to undertake, due to the covid pandemic.

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	Public Safety) Working Group		
04/25/2020 05:26 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr E J	How about have the governor open the state instead of taking a trip to tampa?
04/25/2020 05:26 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr E J	How about have the governor open the state instead of taking a trip to tampa?
04/25/2020 05:26 PM	Education Working Group	Mr E J	How about have the governor open the state instead of taking a trip to tampa?
04/25/2020 05:26 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mr E J	How about have the governor open the state instead of taking a trip to tampa?
04/25/2020 05:46 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Laura Lassiter	The government was founded for the people by the people! Not because we can't govern ourselves, as Moses said "let my people go!" Cooper's out in November! Forest for governor!
04/25/2020 05:51 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Nancy Goldstein	check out this website from the CDC... it has 0 ZERO deaths in NC from the covid virus!! What the heck are we doing to our state by keeping it closed?? Y'all!!!! ????????????????!!!! Right from the horse's mouth via the CDC site with it being updated for April 24th, 2020 - there has ONLY BEEN 24,555 deaths from COVID as the PRIMARY CAUSE for the ENTIRE NATION! North Carolina has ZERO deaths with COVID as PRIMARY CAUSE as of April 24th, 2020! So there is ABSOLUTELY NO REASON to continue this shutdown of our economy in NC! As well as the majority of the States! https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/covid19/index.htm?fbclid=IwAR0LgpDKHpWSz0ftmQ6BfZfZApVyvtIYNE9hZ0xDELhqr6gfcsvfz0Oeiw
04/25/2020 07:13 PM	Health Care Working Group	J Jamison	Expand Medicaid benefits, to make permanent the possible 1115 waiver that has been requested.
04/25/2020 08:14 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr Michael Wiegand	As a worker in the NC prison system where there has been a large increase in confirmed cases of Covid 19, I would like to see consideration of increased hazard pay for the employees who are required to report for duty during these dangerous and trying times. We have no option to work from home and we work in an environment where we are more susceptible to exposure to this deadly virus. Not only the working conditions, but, I have needed to remained quarantined from all of my family to protect them from exposure. The induced stress on staff and families should warrant increased compensation. Thank you for consideration .
04/25/2020 08:25 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency	Dr Lori Spangler	Please make sure we can all vote in Nov. despite the threat of coronavirus. Plan now so everyone can use a mail-in absentee ballot.

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	Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group		
04/25/2020 09:02 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mr. Calvin Allen	Expanding Medicaid would leverage our precious dollars to expand healthcare for thousands of North Carolinians who don't have coverage.
04/25/2020 09:47 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs. Carrie Irish	Please stop trying to "keep us safe" and uphold our freedoms under the Constitution of our state and country.
04/25/2020 10:46 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs. Jandy Salguero	My husband is a CRNA and a credentialed and experienced ICU nurse in the WakeMed system. He is burning through his PTO because there are simply not enough COVID-19 patients for him to help out with, as was previously predicted. Many of his colleagues have been furloughed. It's time to put our state back to work. Please reopen North Carolina and fight for our citizens who are suffering from this shut down.
04/25/2020 11:14 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. William Johnson	Reopen North Carolina! This has gone far too long! People are suffering economically for no reason other than the tyrant in Raleigh! Open this state for business now!!
04/25/2020 11:15 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs Christina Waggoner	All data suggests COVID is as deadly as the flu. Reopen NC. Unemployment = no health insurance = death. Stop playing political games with my money.
04/25/2020 11:56 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Q John Public	What the hell is wrong with you people who supposedly represent us? We are PEOPLE not SHEEP to be led to slaughter. We have RIGHTS endowed by our CREATOR and you are PISSING them AWAY letting ROY COOPER trample over us like HITLER. SHAME SHAME SHAME on you and your families and your progeny. You are a disgrace unless you can stand up to TYRANNY, grow a pair or two!
04/26/2020 03:49 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Jennifer Nagy	Open North Carolina!!!
04/26/2020 03:50 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Thomas Nagy	Reopen our state now!!
04/26/2020 07:30 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Deborah Fillman	I will not wear a mask. A mask only protects others from me. I am not sick, and unless and until you can show me conclusive, peer-reviewed, apolitical science that proves the virus can be passed from me to someone else asymptotically just by breathing the same air as someone else, I will not subjugate myself to the irrational fear of others. You aren't wearing masks. The Governor and his team of flying monkeys aren't wearing masks. The mask is a breeding ground for bacteria itself. The mask makes it harder to breath. The mask is a symbol of the oppression of this government. The mask is a sign of fear and shame. Cultures where people have no freedoms wear masks. Summer is coming, and masks are HOT.

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			<p>Masks worn outside especially are absurd; they defy reason and common sense.</p> <p>A mask worn in close contact in an enclosed room only makes sense if you are symptomatic, and if you are, I'm told, you're in so much discomfort, you don't want to go out.</p> <p>A mask hurts business. I will not go to a business where I'm forced to wear a mask. Many others won't either.</p> <p>A mask discriminated against those who can't find, afford, or make them, and whatever they can come up with as face covering isn't a mask, it's a disguise.</p> <p>If we did not catch this virus all these weeks from the unmasked, even at peak, a mask isn't going to change anything</p> <p>Requiring a business owner to wear masks and force others to wear masks creates a cost burden and deprived them of their freedom to choose.</p> <p>We are free people.</p> <p>We make our own decisions about risk every day.</p> <p>I've made mine.</p> <p>I will not wear the mask of submission,</p> <p>Deborah R Fillman</p>
04/26/2020 08:02 AM	Economic Support Working Group	mr joseph coffini	<p>While recognizing the health concerns I believe the economic impact will be quite devastating and long lasting the further this "shutdown" continues.</p> <p>It is hard not to see politics driving many decisions. When does Raleigh act like leaders. The health care professionals are going above and beyond, the people are doing their part, in my view the politicians are the weak link in this crisis. Do not destroy a vibrant economy.</p>
04/26/2020 10:09 AM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Gerard Stamm	<p>I am flabbergasted that our state of North Carolina still has not expanded Medicaid, especially now when we are ravaged by this pandemic. The ACA Medicaid Expansion is not only generous to individual citizens in need, but also to the state at large. It would assure revenue for hard-hit rural hospitals, avoid the high cost of emergency care, and grant health insurance to a large segment of our population. Let's swallow our pride and do the right thing during this upcoming short session in Raleigh.</p>
04/26/2020 10:24 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Stephanie Brown	<p>Expand broadband throughout the state. Treat Internet access as a public utility.</p> <p>Please repeal SESSION LAW 2011-84 HOUSE BILL 129</p> <p>AN ACT TO PROTECT JOBS AND INVESTMENT BY REGULATING LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPETITION WITH PRIVATE BUSINESS. This "limits the ability of local municipal governments to set up their own high-speed internet service. The law spared cable companies from having to compete with municipal systems that could deliver the same high-speed internet access at a lower price." https://www.newsobserver.com/latest-news/article210366074.html</p>
04/26/2020 10:24 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Stephanie Brown	<p>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.</p>
04/26/2020 10:24 AM	Health Care Working Group	Stephanie Brown	<p>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</p>

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			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.
04/26/2020 10:52 AM	Economic Support Working Group	CEO Pam Boney	We need a workshare program in NC again right now. Please advise if this is being considered to help companies retain workers?
04/26/2020 11:03 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Jennifer De La Jara	Thank you for keeping the stay at home order in place and restaurants closed for now. I own a small restaurant, and while I have zero income right now, having the restrictions in place give me some protections to debtors and provide unemployment relief to my employees. If we were to open now, our sales would be 10% of what they were because of the location of our restaurant which usually only serves breakfast and lunch to uptown workers in downtown Charlotte. Those businesses above us will be allowing their employees to work from home for longer, and with no foot traffic in uptown Charlotte, I would not be able to generate enough sales to stay open and would have no safety net. Thank you for taking all small business owners into consideration. This protects me and protects my employees right now.
04/26/2020 12:27 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Laura Haldane	<p>I am old enough to remember when we had no vaccines for polio, TB, pneumonia, measles, mumps, chicken pox, or influenza. Polio and measles were even more contagious than is COVID-19, yet the entire population was never ordered to stay home. Measures taken back then to minimize the spread of diseases with no vaccines are relevant today with SARS-CoV-2.</p> <p>The general public can be most effective at minimizing the spread of the virus if every one of us acted as though we were an asymptomatic carrier trying to protect everyone else. We need more emphasis in messaging to the public on practices that limit the spread of the virus: hand washing, sanitizing items and surfaces we touch, distancing, quarantining the sick, covering coughs and sneezes. Wearing masks in public should be encouraged to protect others in case the wearer is infected but asymptomatic. We don't need to keep the entire population isolated in their homes and we don't need to destroy the lives and livelihoods of people to fight SARS-CoV-2.</p>
04/26/2020 12:40 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Eugenia Ombach	I'm very worried that we won't be able to safely vote in person in the fall. Please make sure that absentee vote-by-mail is available to everyone (postage is paid; it's easy to request ballots by phone, online; and voters are informed often and early that it's an option for them). The state also needs to make sure that in-person polling places are sanitized and staffed by volunteers that aren't in the at-risk 60+ age group. Thank you for your help keeping NC voters safe!
04/26/2020 12:41 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr Daniel Leonard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide broader access to secure voter registration and absentee voting by mail, • Address the threat of a poll staff shortages by relaxing rules on who can work and where • Amend voting rules to give the NC Board of Elections flexibility to respond to emergencies such as: pandemics, natural disasters, armed conflict, etc. • 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

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			<p>people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assume the costs for mailing in an absentee ballot .
04/26/2020 01:14 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	martha knisley	<p>Please consider mail in ballots and promoting absentee voting this fall. We can make this work,many states already have and this promotes and protects our democracy.</p> <p>Thank you Martha Knisley</p>
04/26/2020 01:27 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Joshua Garloch	<p>Hello,</p> <p>To introduce myself, my name is Josh Garloch. I have been a resident of NorthCarolina most of my life and currently reside in Raleigh. I grew up in Wilson and attending East Carolina University for my bachelor's and Master's in Public Health. I currently work at Syneos Health in Morrisville where I work within Project Management in Clinical Research.I'm writing you today, not to advocate for a complete reopening of the state, but that our leaders "do better". We cannot afford to "shelter in place" for much longer. Not only will the economic factors be an insurmountable deficit for our state to overcome, but the long term effects to mental health, pre-existing health conditions (fear of seeking care), education and livelihoods may not repairable.In NC, we've reached 299 deaths, but what if I you were also told ~50% of those deaths were in nursing/residential living facilities? You would think more attention, detail, resources and policy would be applied to this subset of the population.</p> <p>Of the 299 deaths, only 45 have been under the age of 65 meaning a whopping 85% of deaths have been for those over 65. This information should also be detailed in these news briefings given by our state leaders, Governor Roy Cooper and Dr. Mandy Cohen. NC DHHS has not made pre-existing health conditions available to the public but in NY, 94% of deaths had a pre-existing condition, with over half presenting with hypertension. Hypertension is a disease that typically does not present by itself but rather presents with another condition, e.g. obesity,diabetes. Median age of deaths in NY is 63, which is in line with our numbers. We have a very clear, defined patient population that is being treated for all intents in purposes the same as John Q. public. These should be the focus of care, treatment and policy. There is no guarantee of treat mentor vaccine on the horizon. We are inevitably delaying a re-opening of the state while creating more damage in the long term, then good in the short term. This is not only wrong but irresponsible on innumerable levels. Our state is estimated to lose 25-40 billion dollars in GDP over the course of our stay at home order, a deficit I worry we will never climb back from. Towns and business who will never be made whole again to no fault of their own. This shelter in place order is not a sustainable practice and was never meant to act as one. The data supports a better set of policies and a more expedited re-opening of the state, even on a phased approached.</p> <p>I am humbly asking for your assistance for the state to consider not black and white numbers, but the longer terms societal factors as well as the populations most at risk against the greater good of the public. Over 700k North Carolinian's are out of a job by no fault of their own. I believe this issue has unnecessarily become a political issue that we see playing out before us with each side surrounding themselves with experts who align</p>

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			<p>themselves with those who think the same as opposed to a holistic approach, which also does the entire state a disservice and should be addressed immediately with the Governors office/team being held responsible to report to a higher committee. I also believe that our elected officials are doing their constituents on both sides a disservice by not engaging directly. We do not have to choose between public health and economic considerations, the two must be factored equally as they are co-dependent on each other.</p> <p>I am very willing and open to to engage in further discussion/dialogue should the opportunity be there.</p> <p>For city, state and country, Joshua R. Garloch 5408 Pine Top Circle Raleigh, NC 27612 Garlochj08@gmail.com 252.373.1255</p>
04/26/2020 02:20 PM	Health Care Working Group	Joseph Quaglia	We need to cancel the stay at home rule and we need to start to reopen NC, NOW! Governor Cooper is simply playing politics. He is hurting people, destroying our economy, and ruining peoples lives. I think impeachment proceedings should begin!
04/26/2020 04:12 PM	Health Care Working Group	Lisa Stephens	It would be devastating to open up right now the numbers are still going up in all county's you will only over tax the healthcare system that does not have the PPE needed to do the job. Going slow is the answer unless you want to be like NY and soon to be GA. Sir hear us
04/26/2020 07:35 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Laura Lassiter	Stand for the constitution and reopen NC NOW! Power to the people, COOPER OUT IN NOVEMBER!
04/26/2020 08:03 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs. Emily Smith	Reopen North Carolina
04/26/2020 10:08 PM	Health Care Working Group	tim wells	I support efforts and policies which encourage social distancing whenever possible and only re-opens business and schools in the phased plan I heard Gov. Cooper refer to recently during his press conference. I believe we are wiser to wait rather than rush into opening businesses and schools.
04/26/2020 10:13 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs Misty Franklin	<p>Open up NC</p> <p>End the shut down!</p> <p>Let us work! Stop destroying all our family has built for generations!</p> <p>Numbers don't warrant taking our freedoms!</p>
04/26/2020 10:15 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Ariel Wyatt	<p>End the shut down! We want to go back to school!</p> <p>We learned in History class about our Constitution. The current governor's orders are unconstitutional.</p>
04/26/2020 10:16 PM	Education Working Group	Mr Peter Franklin	This shut down is unconstitutional and is an economic disaster. Further, it is complete unwarranted!

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04/26/2020 10:17 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Claudia Chandler	Open up NC!! We will remember in November and beyond.
04/27/2020 07:47 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Adam Masiarek	We need to be able to vote from home (without any excuse) - 'snail mail voting ballot to each registered voter' please. thank you, adam
04/27/2020 08:17 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Andrew Cox	Tell people to cut their own hair and stay at home until it is safe. Re-opening NC too soon will waste all the efforts we have spent so far.
04/27/2020 08:55 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Jill Painter	I support the current shutdown as the Governor has enacted it. I encourage our state government to support the unemployed, small businesses, and state employees in any and every way possible.
04/27/2020 08:59 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Robby Wells	I request the State Legislature intervene on the actions taken by the Governor. Never in my life have I seen American citizens afraid, not of COVID, but of Governor Cooper and his dictatorship actions of arresting citizens and infringing on their freedom. We are at crucial point in this COVID response and if swift action is not taken to reduce or strip Gov. Cooper of his powers we will slip into a recession in this state the likes we've never seen. Please review the facts on the ground for COVID, the successful recovery rate and use logic in determining the next step forward. 1) Recommend those at risk to remain at home for their safety. 2) Rest of the state can resume work so that those AT RISK can continue to get the best service possible including food, healthcare and entertainment. If we don't then those we wish to protect will become the victim of our doing as the economy comes to a halt.
04/27/2020 09:00 AM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Rebekah Megerian	This pandemic is no time to give into those who mistake liberty, freedom, and rights for unfettered self-indulgence. We have a few North Carolinians who, out of childish selfishness, want to endanger the rest of us. I call on the General Assembly to act like adults and follow Dr. Cohen's lead in the response to the virus.
04/27/2020 09:14 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Jill Gabli	Reopen NC. The economic calamity and subsequent human death and suffering due to the lockdown will dwarf that of COVID 19. More importantly you are trampling our God-given rights enshrined in the Constitution. Reopen because it's the right thing to do morally and legally.
04/27/2020 09:18 AM	Economic Support Working Group	reopen NC	There is so much evidence that sheltering in place the most vulnerable instead of everyone results in the same covid19 spread. So let's do the scientific and right thing moving forward and save NC economy.
04/27/2020 09:25 AM	Economic Support Working Group	prof virgil steven	I write to voice my strong opinion that our state should open slowly over the next several weeks, maintain social distancing .
04/27/2020 09:29 AM	Health Care Working Group	Mark Heywood	We need to continue social distancing and keep as many people as possible at home until testing for all is available. Enforced quarantine for those who are tested and found to be infected. It is NOT the right of every citizen to infect others due to ignorance.
04/27/2020 09:32 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections &	Ms Cheryl Winslow	I feel it is important to maintain social distancing and to use science and data to determine when it is best for reopening businesses. At the same time, I do understand small businesses owners will lose their livelihood so something needs to be done to help

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	Public Safety) Working Group		them. We need to find a balance of public safety and reopening and testing is needed ASAP to help make this possible. Since a resurgence is expected in the fall, our state needs to work on a plan for voting now, instead of waiting until the election is upon us. Voting by mail is a viable option that has worked in many states for many years. It's important to keep our right to vote in all elections without risk of becoming ill, especially for those at most risk. We are capable of doing the right thing in all these situations. It may not be the easiest way, but it isn't impossible. Our elected officials need to do right by the constituents , both republicans and democrats. Now is the time to show you truly care about North Carolinians and this great state.
04/27/2020 09:34 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Sam Gore	I am a lifelong North Carolinian, having been born here, raised here, attended UNC Chapel Hill and when given the choice of what state to live in by my employer (Disney/ESPN), I chose to remain here and travel to work from my home in Wilmington. It breaks my heart, but my family and I will be moving from NC to probably Florida as soon as the country begins to open back up. I can no longer live in a state governed by a governor (that I voted for) who doesn't believe the citizens of this state are mature and intelligent enough to make responsible choices in protecting themselves and others from COVID-19. My belief is that the government should protect the fundamental rights of its citizens listed in the Constitution, NOT regulate them. The economic and emotional damage forced onto this state's citizens, and the refusal to reopen our state's economy, have left me ready to move from this state for the first time in my 53 year life. I'm ready to get to a state where the governor believes in their citizens, not speaks down to them and treats them like children
04/27/2020 09:52 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group		Please provide for vote-by-mail in this November's election. Crucial!
04/27/2020 10:12 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	OPEN UP OUR STATE Allison Graham	Open our state back up so that I can go to work and provide for myself. I'm not getting a stimulus check and I'm out of work and it's hurting bad.. I'm about to lose my health care as well. OPEN THE STATE
04/27/2020 10:18 AM	Education Working Group	Debbie Leonard	Please have school end Memorial day, and start back August 3. Relieve the stress of online learning, parents are going to be going back to work, and have the kids review for a month before moving on to the grade material.
04/27/2020 11:02 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms. Mary Muse	For the safety of North Carolinians (even those who believe the Covid-19 virus is nothing more than the flu), I urge you to continue with closures and social distancing policies. Enforced closures and social distancing is proven to flatten the curve of the virus. We must continue this change in our lifestyle until the disease is minimal. Lives are important -- we can't support the economy if we're dead. North Carolinians are strong and we'll find our way through this pandemic if we stay this course.
04/27/2020 11:04 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections &	Pamela Stephens	I strongly support the Governor's plan to "go slow" in opening up NC business. We are not yet ready: Where are the testing kits? Who is doing the testing? As a scientist, I understand the importance of acting on information, not mere wishes. One does not need

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	Public Safety) Working Group		to be a scientist, however, to appreciate that people's lives need to come first, especially those in the health care fields. We cannot allow them to become overwhelmed. I also strongly support the move to allow mail-in ballots, not just this year, but in the future. This approach is used in many other states and relatives and friends have confirmed how much better this option is - not just when there is a pandemic, but any year, any election. We need to protect the voting rights of all.
04/27/2020 11:48 AM	Health Care Working Group	Susan B. and Robert D. McClanahan	<p>Dear Members of the NC General Assembly,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please support Governor Cooper's slow and sensible reopening plan that has been devised with the help of dedicated DHHS health care professionals in North Carolina. 2. Please make it possible for North Carolinians to vote by mail in the November 2020 election so that our people do not have to choose between voting and staying well. <p>We know that your public comment site has been flooded with comments from people affiliated with ReOpenNC. While we are sorry that businesses in North Carolina are suffering, and we sympathize with their plight, we have to tell you that they do not represent us and the 8,985 North Carolina families who have loved ones who are sick with COVID-19.</p> <p>We have a loved one who has COVID-19, and we are convinced that if ReOpen protestors knew the realities of this disease, they would NEVER be out demonstrating for a speedy reopening of NC. This group was begun on Facebook by paid organizers who were funded by a group of conservative billionaires who have been affiliated with the Koch Brothers and big corporations since the 1970's. [1]. ReOpen NC obviously has deep pocket support, because they were able to hire lawyers to threaten the Cooper administration. [2]. (See the quotes below for specifics.)</p> <p>Our loved one was a very healthy 30-something who has struggled to recover from COVID-19 for more than forty days now. People with COVID-19 often have relapses. While our loved one is doing better, we know from personal experience that NONE of the ReOpen NC people would want to have any of their loved ones sick with the coronavirus.</p> <p>Because COVID-19 is a brand new disease, we do not yet know how long impacted people will be sick with it. One Washington Post article suggests that even "Young and middle-aged people, barely sick with covid-19, are dying from strokes: Doctors sound alarm about patients in their 30s and 40s left debilitated or dead. Some didn't even know they were infected." [3]. With so much uncertainty, NC needs to err on the side of caution when reopening NC.</p> <p>Please make it possible for North Carolinians to vote by mail in the November 2020 election so that our people do not have to choose between voting and staying well.</p> <p>After their April 7th election fiasco, Milwaukee has had at least seven people come down with the coronavirus after people had to stand in line for hours to vote. [4].</p>

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			<p>Thank you for any help that you can provide!</p> <p>[1]. "The outside effort from conservative groups is expected to be led by Stephen Moore, a conservative at the Heritage Foundation who is close with White House economic officials; Jenny Beth Martin, co-founder of the Tea Party Patriots; Adam Brandon, president of FreedomWorks, a conservative advocacy organization; and Lisa Nelson, chief executive of the American Legislative Exchange Council, a conservative organization with ties to the Koch brothers, according to the three people, who were granted anonymity to reveal details of an effort that had not been publicly revealed."</p> <p>Quoted from: White House aides, outside groups launch effort to reopen economy, but Mnuchin says decisions poses risks: Conservative groups mobilize to push Trump to reopen economy amid pandemic. White House reviews list of 100 business executives who could advise Trump on decision, which president says he will make soon, by Jeff Stein and Robert Costa, The Washington Post, posted April 13, 2020.</p> <p>[2]. "If your offices do not provide reasonable assurance and objective standards that preserve my clients' constitutional rights," Biller wrote, "we will have no choice but to seek emergency legal relief in advance of Tuesday's planned protest."</p> <p>Quoted from: 'Shutdown is tyranny'. Approximately 1000 march to demand Cooper reopen NC economy, by Joe Fisher and Cullen Browder, WRAL, Raleigh, NC, posted April 21, 2020; updated April 22. https://www.wral.com/coronavirus/shutdown-is-tyranny-approximately-1000-march-to-demand-cooper-reopen-nc-economy/19064821/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=d3a8e8cc-61e9-485b-9a70-4551a70bcf41</p> <p>[3]. "Young and middle-aged people, barely sick with covid-19, are dying from strokes: Doctors sound alarm about patients in their 30s and 40s left debilitated or dead. Some didn't even know they were infected." by Ariana Eunjung Cha, The Washington Post, posted April 25, 2020. https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/2020/04/24/strokes-coronavirus-young-patients/?utm_campaign=wp_post_most&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&wpisrc=nl_most)</p> <p>[4]. At least 7 new coronavirus cases appear to be related to Wisconsin's election, Milwaukee health commissioner says, by Alison Dirr, The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Wisconsin, posted April 21, 2020. https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2020/04/20/coronavirus-milwaukee-7-new-cases-may-tied-april-7-election/5168669002/</p>
04/27/2020 11:48 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Susan B. and Robert D. McClanahan	<p>Dear Members of the NC General Assembly,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please support Governor Cooper's slow and sensible reopening plan that has been devised with the help of dedicated DHHS health care professionals in North Carolina. 2. Please make it possible for North Carolinians to vote by mail in the November 2020

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			<p>reopen economy amid pandemic. White House reviews list of 100 business executives who could advise Trump on decision, which president says he will make soon, by Jeff Stein and Robert Costa, The Washington Post, posted April 13, 2020.</p> <p>[2]. "If your offices do not provide reasonable assurance and objective standards that preserve my clients' constitutional rights," Biller wrote, "we will have no choice but to seek emergency legal relief in advance of Tuesday's planned protest."</p> <p>Quoted from: 'Shutdown is tyranny'. Approximately 1000 march to demand Cooper reopen NC economy, by Joe Fisher and Cullen Browder, WRAL, Raleigh, NC, posted April 21, 2020; updated April 22. https://www.wral.com/coronavirus/shutdown-is-tyranny-approximately-1000-march-to-demand-cooper-reopen-nc-economy/19064821/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=d3a8e8cc-61e9-485b-9a70-4551a70bcf41</p> <p>[3]. "Young and middle-aged people, barely sick with covid-19, are dying from strokes: Doctors sound alarm about patients in their 30s and 40s left debilitated or dead. Some didn't even know they were infected." by Ariana Eunjung Cha, The Washington Post, posted April 25, 2020. https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/2020/04/24/strokes-coronavirus-young-patients/?utm_campaign=wp_post_most&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&wpisrc=nl_most)</p> <p>[4]. At least 7 new coronavirus cases appear to be related to Wisconsin's election, Milwaukee health commissioner says, by Alison Dirr, The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Wisconsin, posted April 21, 2020. https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2020/04/20/coronavirus-milwaukee-7-new-cases-may-tied-april-7-election/5168669002/</p>
04/27/2020 11:49 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Susan B. and Robert D. McClanahan	<p>Dear Members of the NC General Assembly,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please support Governor Cooper's slow and sensible reopening plan that has been devised with the help of dedicated DHHS health care professionals in North Carolina. 2. Please make it possible for North Carolinians to vote by mail in the November 2020 election so that our people do not have to choose between voting and staying well. <p>We know that your public comment site has been flooded with comments from people affiliated with ReOpenNC. While we are sorry that businesses in North Carolina are suffering, and we sympathize with their plight, we have to tell you that they do not represent us and the 8,985 North Carolina families who have loved ones who are sick with COVID-19.</p> <p>We have a loved one who has COVID-19, and we are convinced that if ReOpen protestors knew the realities of this disease, they would NEVER be out demonstrating for a speedy reopening of NC. This group was begun on Facebook by paid organizers who were funded by a group of conservative billionaires who have been affiliated with the Koch Brothers and big corporations since the 1970's. [1]. ReOpen NC obviously has deep pocket support,</p>

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04/27/2020 11:49 AM	Education Working Group	Susan B. and Robert D. McClanahan	<p>Dear Members of the NC General Assembly,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please support Governor Cooper's slow and sensible reopening plan that has been devised with the help of dedicated DHHS health care professionals in North Carolina. 2. Please make it possible for North Carolinians to vote by mail in the November 2020 election so that our people do not have to choose between voting and staying well. <p>We know that your public comment site has been flooded with comments from people affiliated with ReOpenNC. While we are sorry that businesses in North Carolina are suffering, and we sympathize with their plight, we have to tell you that they do not represent us and the 8,985 North Carolina families who have loved ones who are sick with COVID-19.</p> <p>We have a loved one who has COVID-19, and we are convinced that if ReOpen protestors knew the realities of this disease, they would NEVER be out demonstrating for a speedy reopening of NC. This group was begun on Facebook by paid organizers who were funded by a group of conservative billionaires who have been affiliated with the Koch Brothers and big corporations since the 1970's. [1]. ReOpen NC obviously has deep pocket support, because they were able to hire lawyers to threaten the Cooper administration. [2]. (See the quotes below for specifics.)</p> <p>Our loved one was a very healthy 30-something who has struggled to recover from COVID-19 for more than forty days now. People with COVID-19 often have relapses. While our loved one is doing better, we know from personal experience that NONE of the ReOpen NC people would want to have any of their loved ones sick with the coronavirus.</p> <p>Because COVID-19 is a brand new disease, we do not yet know how long impacted people will be sick with it. One Washington Post article suggests that even "Young and middle-aged people, barely sick with covid-19, are dying from strokes: Doctors sound alarm about patients in their 30s and 40s left debilitated or dead. Some didn't even know they were infected." [3]. With so much uncertainty, NC needs to err on the side of caution when</p>

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			<p>reopening NC.</p> <p>Please make it possible for North Carolinians to vote by mail in the November 2020 election so that our people do not have to choose between voting and staying well.</p> <p>After their April 7th election fiasco, Milwaukee has had at least seven people come down with the coronavirus after people had to stand in line for hours to vote. [4].</p> <p>Thank you for any help that you can provide!</p> <p>[1]. "The outside effort from conservative groups is expected to be led by Stephen Moore, a conservative at the Heritage Foundation who is close with White House economic officials; Jenny Beth Martin, co-founder of the Tea Party Patriots; Adam Brandon, president of FreedomWorks, a conservative advocacy organization; and Lisa Nelson, chief executive of the American Legislative Exchange Council, a conservative organization with ties to the Koch brothers, according to the three people, who were granted anonymity to reveal details of an effort that had not been publicly revealed."</p> <p>Quoted from: White House aides, outside groups launch effort to reopen economy, but Mnuchin says decisions poses risks: Conservative groups mobilize to push Trump to reopen economy amid pandemic. White House reviews list of 100 business executives who could advise Trump on decision, which president says he will make soon, by Jeff Stein and Robert Costa, The Washington Post, posted April 13, 2020.</p> <p>[2]. "If your offices do not provide reasonable assurance and objective standards that preserve my clients' constitutional rights," Biller wrote, "we will have no choice but to seek emergency legal relief in advance of Tuesday's planned protest."</p> <p>Quoted from: 'Shutdown is tyranny'. Approximately 1000 march to demand Cooper reopen NC economy, by Joe Fisher and Cullen Browder, WRAL, Raleigh, NC, posted April 21, 2020; updated April 22. https://www.wral.com/coronavirus/shutdown-is-tyranny-approximately-1000-march-to-demand-cooper-reopen-nc-economy/19064821/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=d3a8e8cc-61e9-485b-9a70-4551a70bcf41</p> <p>[3]. "Young and middle-aged people, barely sick with covid-19, are dying from strokes: Doctors sound alarm about patients in their 30s and 40s left debilitated or dead. Some didn't even know they were infected." by Ariana Eunjung Cha, The Washington Post, posted April 25, 2020. https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/2020/04/24/strokes-coronavirus-young-patients/?utm_campaign=wp_post_most&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&wpisrc=nl_most)</p> <p>[4]. At least 7 new coronavirus cases appear to be related to Wisconsin's election, Milwaukee health commissioner says, by Alison Dirr, The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Wisconsin, posted April 21, 2020. https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2020/04/20/coronavirus-milwaukee-7-new-cases-may-tied-april-7-</p>

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04/27/2020 12:29 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Meredith Heywood	election/5168669002/ Please continue the stay at home order. We are doing our part not to spread this disease, to open too soon puts us all at greater risk. We need good leadership more than ever. I have fully appreciated what Governor Copper has done to bring a voice of reason to a troubled time. I know he, his staff, our health care professional are working under extremely hard during this life threatening situation. Let's not undo all the time we are spending doing the right thing. To open too fast, too soon puts us, our families, our friends at risk. Thank you, Meredith Heywood.
04/27/2020 12:42 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Sharon Morton	The executive orders are not constitutional and need to be rescinded immediately and NC opened.
04/27/2020 02:01 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Roger Greene	I would encourage our legislators to support our Govenor in using a science based plan for navigating the CVOD-19 crisis. Thank you.
04/27/2020 02:12 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms Andrea Watson	Expand Medicaid. Boost spending on public health. Make unemployment insurance real insurance. Help small businesses. Step up the expansion of rural broadband.
04/27/2020 02:31 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms Deborah Kennedy	<p>I have been very happy with and proud of Gov. Cooper's response to Covid-19. He has taken great care of the citizens of our state, even when the lieutenant governor was undermining those very steps. I was recently talking with a friend who moved from NC back to the west, she is in NV. I said I was happy with what the governor was doing so far. She said she knew he would be a fantastic governor, that's why she voted for him.</p> <p>What is concerning me at this point is the possibility of beginning opening on May 8. We have fairly low numbers, it would be fantastic to keep it that way.</p> <p>Here is a snapshot of what I see out in the public. I live on the border of Randolph and Guilford county, and the few times I have gone out I am not seeing nearly enough people wearing masks or face coverings. Social distancing is somewhat observed, but not as it should be. When in a grocery store I have had several experiences where I absolutely could not get away from people who were not observing the social distancing. I constantly dodge germ laden spit, dirty diapers, tissue, used masks and gloves, and half eaten food throughout parking lots.</p> <p>Neighborhood children are playing together. None of the women who are walking their strollers are wearing masks. I am hearing many folks dismiss this virus. In conversation I notice that many resist everything related to the restrictions, and even the intensity of this virus. I feel these people outnumber those observing cautious behaviors, and are putting all others at risk. I see parents with children out in stores with no face coverings. I don't know what is happening with compliance in the Triangle area, but this is rampant in less sophisticated cities like High Point, and counties like Randolph. If you loosen the restrictions, even a bit, they will take a mile. I feel asking the people to cover their face for</p>

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			<p>others rather than for themselves is not enough motivation for these people, they are the ones more concerned about themselves. The message should be to do it to protect themselves so maybe they would comply.</p> <p>I certainly understand the the importance of NASCAR, I went to school with Kyle Petty, but If NASCAR to moves forward, even without spectators this will send another signal that it is okay to begin acting like this is not happening. There will be large gatherings in homes to view the race. A neighbor of mine had people over partying in their backyard yesterday.</p> <p>I am part of a social Meetup group for middle aged and older people. Some of this group had a big party just a few days before the stay-at-home order was issued. The pictures posted on the event page shows them acting as usual, with arms all around each other, one lady laying across several people on the sofa, pics with their heads together. They all brought food for a potluck, These are educated professionals who should have known better.</p> <p>All this to say, we have done this well with a great amount of people not following ALL of the guidelines, please don't make a mistake and undo the good work that has been done so far. You all are our guardians. I am quite frightened with what our surrounding southern states are doing, and don't want to be a part of that, or encourage their entry into our state. The president frightens me daily, I count on you to shepherd us safely, you are who we depend on. I understand the protesters they need to make a living, but not at the expense of the lives of others or themselves. Those lives are worth your political career either. Maybe now is the time to create virtual jobs they can do from home to help with the situation we're in right now. A modern version of the WPA, jobs creation. Processing unemployment requests, the Small Business loans, SNAP benefits, etc. many other things. So many companies are behind their online orders right now. Why not enlist the SBA in helping small retail businesses to go online and/or promote it, if their product is a good fit? NC could lead in this idea. We are a state of education and innovation.</p> <p>The experts are right. Please don't begin this opening too soon. I feel May 8 is too soon.</p> <p>I deeply appreciate your time and service. Debbie Kennedy</p>
04/27/2020 02:42 PM	Health Care Working Group	Scott Hunter	Please do not be stupid and open the state until numbers are steadily dropping and this thing is under control. There is no sense opening up only to close again when we get another spike in cases that cripples us.
04/27/2020 02:54 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mr. Dale McClain	Please do not rush to prematurely ease the Covid19 restrictions. I understand the desire to reopen the economy, but don't think it should be done at the expense of public health and lives. I am in what is considered a high risk group, and hope that nothing will be done that would increase the risk to my life, or others lives. I think everything should be done to ease the burden of those suffering unemployment and loss of income that we can do except increase the risk to the lives and heath of all the people.
04/27/2020 02:54 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections &	Ms. Kim Fitzgibbon	I want the state legislature to give the Governor whatever he needs to protect our state. Mail in ballots for November, PPE for nursing homes and group homes, money to help small businesses.

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	Public Safety) Working Group		<p>I completely support Governor Cooper and his team as they slowly begin to open the state by following the course of the virus as it spreads. There would be a terrible financial burden placed on all North Carolinians if we have to go back to the beginning again and start the quarantining because too many people tried to go back to 'normal' activities too quickly. There must be sufficient testing and contact tracing for every resident to be tested multiple times, as well as testing for different stages of the virus' spread. I want to know that my family is first being tested to see if we have had the virus. Then I want to have my family repeatedly tested for the next year or longer until there is a vaccine. Finally, I want to have my family tested if we are ever exposed to someone not social distancing properly (not wearing a mask, touching things on purpose to spread the virus maliciously, or coughing in public).</p>