

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

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
04/27/2020 03:02 PM	Education Working Group	REV Bruce MacInnes	Please open up NC completely. Every day is a day of great loss both economically and socially. The virus is not something that should take away our freedom. We can deal with it through the usual way of telling the sick to stay home but the healthy should be working. The at risk population is already identified and we can shelter them but PLEASE STOP ORDERING US TO SHUTDOWN.
04/27/2020 03:07 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms. Laura Burns	I applaud the governor's decision to extend the stay-at-home order to May 8. When we do begin reopening NC, I would like to suggest that we implement a law requiring everyone to wear masks in public for the following ___ months, whatever is recommended by experts. Thank you!
04/27/2020 03:14 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Lois Bohnsack	Governor Cooper's plan is a logical and scientific way to reopen our state. Opening too soon can prolong our recovery and lead to more deaths. Let's stick with the current plan.
04/27/2020 03:23 PM	Health Care Working Group	Debbie Pike	I support Gov. Roy Cooper's plan to maintain orders to protect the public health of our State. I fully believe that his strong actions, based on the recommendations of a multitude of scientific and health professionals, has saved lives and helped to keep the spread of Covid-19 to a manageable level. I urge this Legislative body to continue to support his endeavors.
04/27/2020 04:05 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mark Kemp	Gov. Cooper has a plan that protects public health and our frontline essential workers while we reopen the state in stages based on medical and scientific knowledge. Please do not listen to the rantings of Reopen NC, a group led by anti-vaxxer and anti-science extremist Ashley Smith. To follow the lead of extremists would be dangerous and highly irresponsible. North Carolina is better and smarter than this. Thank you.
04/27/2020 04:23 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mellicent Blythe	I am writing to demand free and fair elections in our state that don't put our citizens at risk. We must begin planning for and fully fund Vote by Mail options to ensure this basic constitutional right. I urge the State Operations Working Group to use evidence and facts to guide policy, and not fear mongering and baseless conspiracy theories. NC has worked hard to be a national leader in innovation, a strong economy, and education. Do not put all of that at risk by limiting access to the most fundamental of our rights. Thank you.
04/27/2020 04:26 PM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Patricia Chamberlin	I support the Governor's plan to reopen businesses slowly, in stages, with frequent input from public health officials.
04/27/2020 05:15 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ruth Scanlan	I support Gov. Cooper's measured approach to opening up the ability of people to gather in groups in our state.
04/27/2020 05:17 PM	Health Care Working Group	Charles Clifton	I would like to request that the state legislature use the current COVID Emergency funding to get a digital health tracking system in place and operating for all of the state of North Carolina.
04/27/2020 05:21 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ann Bennett	Listen to Gov Cooper and his stay in place order. Do not reopen yet. It is not safe
04/27/2020 05:30 PM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. talula cartwright	I do not think is it wise to rush into reopening the state. I think other states are being

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	Group		hasty, and their decisions are being influenced by people who are uninformed.
04/27/2020 05:46 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Unemployment Tina Tucker	<p>The N.C. House Select Committee on COVID-19 Economic Support Working Group has convened four times for remote meetings regarding economic issues impacting N.C. due to COVID-19 since March 31, 2020. They have yet to make any legitimate or measurable progress on UNEMPLOYMENT claims due to COVID. Committee members are THE PEOPLES' representatives! We call to you for help and each meeting it becomes more obvious WE ARE NOT BEING HEARD. You have been busy drafting legislation on many economic issues impacted by COVID 19 but the UNEMPLOYMENT claims process is still being IGNORED!</p> <p>PHONE LINES are overrun! Over 100,000 phone calls and counting.. PER DAY. Your constituents are being hung up on and ignored!</p> <p>Questionnaires are worded unclearly and hard to answer! How can we give accurate information when the verbiage is unclear?</p> <p>Claim processes are not streamlined! The website os constantly timing out and takes several submission attempts to complete one page. Error correction is nearly impossible!</p> <p>We NEED and DESERVE to be heard. The whole unemployment system needs to be reformed through emergency action! There has to be other options! The CARES Act gives the states the ability to find these additional options, to hire more, and gives the right to implement what is needed to get claims processed quickly and efficiently.</p> <p>We demand that a plan to REFORM to the unemployment claims process be put on the agenda NOW! Find a quick solution to the call center issue NOW!</p>
04/27/2020 06:04 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Jo Macon	I agree with the Governor of NC 's current policy of sheltering in place. I do not wish for non-essential services and businesses to reopen too quickly, as the curve is going straight up in Randolph and Chatham counties near us. I also think that the numbers might be much higher than what we know, due to lack of testing availability. (I have been told that if someone dies at home from COVID-19 instead of a hospital, that they are not counted, and also there is a lack of transparency in Randolph county of letting us know which geographical locations have the outbreaks)
04/27/2020 06:32 PM	Education Working Group	Christa Hutzler	REOPEN NC! Small businesses cannot afford to continue this shutdown! Restaurants, a huge part of our economy, will not survive! We are tired of being locked in our homes! This virus was grossly overestimated, and now that we know the survival rate is 99.8%, we must get back to work! PLEASE RESCIND THESE SHUTDOWN ORDERS!
04/27/2020 06:55 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	COVID-19 CATHY SNOW	I support Governor Cooper's intent to reopen the state following medical/scientific advice. It is far better to maintain a safe environment for the citizens and the first responders that serve us.
04/27/2020 06:59 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency	Tracey Broome	Thank you Governor Cooper your your level head and sound judgment during this stressful time. Your efforts are greatly appreciated and I am so glad to have stay at home orders

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	Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group		through May 8. I have felt no hardship during this time, we prepared early, shopped several times in February as my husband works for the Associated Press and saw this coming. I told my place of work on March 10 that I would have to be out for awhile as I am in the over 60 high risk category. Thanks all for your hard work!
04/27/2020 07:29 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Edd Lovette	<p>The State shutdown was initiated to control the load on the hospital system, which I agreed with. So now that has been controlled why are we still shutdown?</p> <p>I was still ok to go through the end of April but why extend it to May 8th? My fear is that Governor Cooper intends to continue extended the date for weeks or months beyond that date.</p> <p>Please do something to stop the madness!</p>
04/27/2020 07:30 PM	Education Working Group	Mr. Grey Revell	<p>Gov. Cooper has placed contingencies that both protect public health and our frontline essential workers as we reopen the state in stages based on medical and scientific knowledge.</p> <p>Please do not acknowledge the unfounded ramblings of groups like Reopen NC, a group led by anti-vaccination and anti-science extremist Ashley Smith.</p> <p>To give credence to the willfully gnorant is both perilous and highly irresponsible. North Carolina is a better state than this. Thank you.</p>
04/27/2020 07:38 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Keep us safe Beth WILKINSON	<p>Follow medical and scientific recommendations. Opening too soon could be deadly to many and cause us to have to close again , causing more economic hardship.</p> <p>Gov. Cooper has a plan that protects public health and our frontline essential workers while we reopen the state in stages based on medical and scientific knowledge. Please do not listen to the rantings of Reopen NC, To follow the lead of extremists would be dangerous and highly irresponsible. North Carolina is better and smarter than this. Thank you.</p>
04/27/2020 07:46 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Steve Maurer	It is clear thar the shelter in place has been affective. Please continue with it until all the numbers set by the Govenor are satisfied no matter how long that may take. Lives are the most important thing.
04/27/2020 08:18 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms Nell Allen	I support the Governor's plan to reopen North Carolina gradually and safely, using science-based principles. If we return to normal too quickly, we are likely to lose the gains we have worked so hard for and risk having additional unnecessary deaths from COVID 19, and risk having to shut the economy down a second time, causing more damage there as well. Please support keeping our State safe with gradual and thoughtful easing of restrictions!
04/27/2020 09:08 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Robert Apple	Open up the State. Quit just handing out tax dollars like it is candy. People can stand in line to buy toilet paper, they can stand in line to vote as they have about 10 weeks prior due to early voting. Cut taxes, repeal regulations, send private schools their fair share of lottery money,. Believe Tara Reade.

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04/27/2020 09:23 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Laurie Childres	There must be a sense of urgency to develop VOTE-BY-MAIL before the upcoming election in November. COVID-19 has taught us that 'business as usual' is a thing of the past. Supplying ballots with prepaid envelopes would assure that everyone had an opportunity to exercise their right to vote, while maintaining their good health and the good health of all those who would be risking their lives to staff all the polls. There has been NO EVIDENCE that voting by mail has been problematic. Several states have successfully PROVEN that the vote-by-mail system is not only popular, but has allowed more people the opportunity to voice their opinion on who they want to represent them. And isn't that what it's ALL ABOUT? Thank you.
04/27/2020 11:04 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs Lynne Haddow	Please ensure our Constitutional right to vote. Voting by mail is a safe and viable way to let voters speak. Please make this option available for November.
04/28/2020 05:48 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. Kent McDougal	Open up the state for people to work. Those that need to stay home can.
04/28/2020 07:42 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Terri McGaughey	Please expand Medicaid to cover more North Carolinians. Doing so would help workers who are the backbone of our economy, protect families from bankruptcy, and help rural hospitals stay available to North Carolinians. Thank you for considering this request.
04/28/2020 07:46 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms. Terri McGaughey	Please help protect citizens' right to vote by promoting absentee vote-by-mail, providing postage-paid return envelopes for vote-by-mail ballots, expanding flexibility of early voting, and enhancing recruitment of poll workers. Thank you for considering my request.
04/28/2020 07:54 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Walter Pavlik II	<p>I truly understand that it is a hardship for many businesses dealing with the needed shelter in place order for the COVID-19 Pandemic response.</p> <p>However, it is necessary. We have been able to keep the spread of this disease in check ONLY because we have been staying isolated from those who can come in contact with the disease and then spread it unknowingly.</p> <p>It's up to us to continue to stay apart, so we can let this thing die out.</p> <p>The other part of that equation is we MUST help those who earned a living being in close contact with others as part of their vocation. They are hurting on multiple levels. Financially, of course, but also with the fear that they may not be able to work in their chosen professions and earn a living for maybe a year. We need a social safety net to remain in place for them until we are past this Pandemic. People need to know that when this is all over, choosing the careers of hairdresser, nail technician, licensed massage therapists, servers in restaurants, and many more careers that provide valuable services to many people can still support them and their families.</p> <p>What this pandemic has shown us is we can, and should do better by our citizens who provide VALUABLE services that aren't measured just on a balance sheet. They've been taking care of us, it's time to make sure we take care of them.</p>

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04/28/2020 07:54 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Walter Pavlik II	<p>I truly understand that it is a hardship for many businesses dealing with the needed shelter in place order for the COVID-19 Pandemic response.</p> <p>However, it is necessary. We have been able to keep the spread of this disease in check ONLY because we have been staying isolated from those who can come in contact with the disease and then spread it unknowingly.</p> <p>It's up to us to continue to stay apart, so we can let this thing die out.</p> <p>The other part of that equation is we MUST help those who earned a living being in close contact with others as part of their vocation. They are hurting on multiple levels. Financially, of course, but also with the fear that they may not be able to work in their chosen professions and earn a living for maybe a year. We need a social safety net to remain in place for them until we are past this Pandemic. People need to know that when this is all over, choosing the careers of hairdresser, nail technician, licensed massage therapists, servers in restaurants, and many more careers that provide valuable services to many people can still support them and their families.</p> <p>What this pandemic has shown us is we can, and should do better by our citizens who provide VALUABLE services that aren't measured just on a balance sheet. They've been taking care of us, it's time to make sure we take care of them.</p>
04/28/2020 08:12 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Jane Braswell	Please, please maintain and tighten restrictions on locking down. If we could totally lock down for two weeks, we could save so many lives.
04/28/2020 08:20 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Dr. Abby Hoffman	<p>Dear General Assembly Members:</p> <p>We are desperate to have a robust plan for election voting by mail in November. Our democracy depends on it; your power may be tempered or not by it. There is some evidence that voting by mail does not benefit either political party, but that it will be a positive step in ensuring that more people have access to voting.</p>
04/28/2020 08:47 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr. Todd Beck	Please consider the granting of an extension on vehicle state inspections during this time.
04/28/2020 09:04 AM	Health Care Working Group	Peter Holsapple	Gov. Cooper has a plan that protects public health and our frontline essential workers while we reopen the state in stages based on medical and scientific knowledge. Please do not listen to the rantings of Reopen NC, a group led by anti-vaxxer and anti-science extremist Ashley Smith. To follow the lead of extremists would be dangerous and irresponsible. North Carolina is better and smarter than this. Thank you.
04/28/2020 09:36 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	mr Frederick Armani	We need follow the Governors plan. All voting should be by mail.
04/28/2020 09:52 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Voting by Mail Randall Foster	I am very much in favor of voting by mail, especially due to the risk associated with Covid 19 and the upcoming election. It would be great if there was a way to verify that your vote was received and counted. Maybe a code number on your ballot that you could enter on an official NC Voter website to make sure your vote arrived and was counted. We have the ability to make this work.

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04/28/2020 10:07 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Reopen NC Bethany Armistead	You're not upholding your oath to protect the constitution. Our rights are given by God, not by you. Reopen NC.
04/28/2020 10:18 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Mrs. Debbie DeLoreto	It is time to re-open North Carolina and let us get back to our jobs, our businesses and our lives. Our personal freedoms have been infringed upon long enough. The whole premise for the lockdown was to curb the spread and keep hospital capacity low. Both have been attained. Now our Governor is just playing politics and it is time for someone to have courage to stand up to him. Open up North Carolina now before there is no business to go back to. We do not want anymore government bailouts. Stop this insanity.
04/28/2020 10:19 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Caren Kessler	I urge the approval of NC's matching funds for HAVA and CARES so that elections in the fall can be accessible and safe to all voters. Voters need expanded opportunities to use absentee ballots (drop boxes, elimination of witnesses, the ability to request a ballot electronically, and paid return postage). Poll workers and in-person voters need expanded hours and locations, sanitation, and personal protection.
04/28/2020 11:06 AM	Health Care Working Group	Donald McDonald	Expand Medicaid, cease behavioral health funding cuts, and enforce parity. This is the whole of your responsibility, and the rest is commentary.
04/28/2020 11:16 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms Nancy Boston	During this pandemic make voting safer by allowing absentee voting with paid mailing and online voter registration
04/28/2020 11:54 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms Ann Simpson	I completely support the slow and careful re-opening of commerce in NC when it is supported and advocated by medical and science experts. I also completely support moving to a mail-in ballot election in November for all who wish to participate in that form. This is the option that makes good sense.
04/28/2020 11:55 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Syon	So far I appreciate the shutdown in North Carolina that has clearly reduced the spread of COVID-19. It is especially comforting because my parents work in health care and I have an elderly grandmother, so effective prevention policies are really important to me. I think that economically, very intentional steps need to be taken before opening back up fully. For example, testing is still not widely available and I think the state would benefit greatly from a new disease tracing workforce. That would both help with unemployment and help us open back up safely. Until then, we still aren't equipped to open up and if we do it seems like we risk a second wave of the disease which could be more deadly similar to the Spanish Flu. I hope the Committee considers public health and intentionally helps out the people of North Carolina economically as we enter a new recession.
04/28/2020 12:06 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Susan Scott	I believe we should follow the Governor's Plan to reopen slowly and in stages to prevent a second wave of infection and preventable deaths. Randolph County has one of the highest rates of infection per 100,000 in the state, and more needs to be done here. Any business/organization that is open should be required to provide masks for their personnel to protect them, their families, and their customers. We have a local veterinarians office that is not providing masks for employees. Before we reopen non-

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			<p>essential businesses, I would like to see a decrease in the number of cases state-wide.</p> <p>In addition, I would like to see county Health Departments bolstered with additional personnel under the direct employment of the State Government to aid with reporting statistics and more importantly, contact tracing to follow outbreaks of the disease on the local level. This would help unify the data coming in from health departments across the state.</p> <p>Also, I would like to see more funding for our local Elections Office to purchase needed equipment and hire more personnel for the upcoming election. I believe these are needed for an increase in absentee ballots this fall.</p> <p>Our schools also need more funding for all teachers and staff including cafeteria and transportation personnel. They have performed above the call of duty to make sure that our children are not only educated, but also fed in the face of this pandemic.</p> <p>Finally, aid for small businesses should be destined for true small businesses with less than 20 employees. These folks work on narrow margins and they do not have large financial buffers to get them through a crisis.</p>
04/28/2020 01:06 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Plan to Reopen and Vote b Leslie Bailey	My husband and I fully support Governor Cooper's gradual reopening of NC businesses and schools, based on scientific data and information. We also strongly support voting by mail.
04/28/2020 02:00 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Mr Joseph Ince	<p>I am writing to express my strong displeasure with the continuation of Governor Coopers draconian overreaching stay home order. Not only do I believe that Governor Cooper has overstepped his constitutional authority but I also believe the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The stay at home order was to flatten the curve which has been accomplished but now the order has been extended based on entirely new criteria that were never part of the original order. 2. The stay at home order is unconstitutional due to the random and discriminatory nature it treats people differently. 3. Evidence continues to surface that COVID-19 is not as dangerous as the wildly flawed models predicted it to be. The infection and Death rate in North Carolina in no way justifies robbing so many of their rights to and placing them on house arrest. <p>It is time to lift the stay at home order, allow businesses to open and set their own protection rules and the state should spend its limited resources on keeping the health system prepared and protecting the most at risk.</p> <p>Finally, The North Carolina Legislature needs to clarify current statute to protect our state from being taken advantage of again the next time a Governor wants to arbitrarily order millions of people to stay home on house arrest.</p>
04/28/2020 02:45 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections &	Kim Williams	North Carolina definitely needs a contingency plan in place in time to allow vote-by-mail in the November 2020 elections. With so much uncertainty around possible second and even third waves of the covid-19 virus, it would be irresponsible for our state not to make a plan

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	Public Safety) Working Group		for people to vote by mail in case they feel unsafe leaving their homes or there is another order to shelter in place this fall.
04/28/2020 02:46 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms.. Jamie Forbes	I am an attorney representing an unemployment claimant who was furloughed on April 6, 2020. Claim was filed on-line on April 7. Twenty-one days has elapsed with no determination. How are these claimants supposed to maintain basic necessities for themselves and their families? Why aren't all necessary resources being provided to this unemployment agency so that claims can be timely determined? The pandemic was not the fault of these claimants and their families. The delay is unacceptable.
04/28/2020 03:17 PM	Economic Support Working Group	1959 Susan Haithcock	reopen NC!!!
04/28/2020 03:36 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Internet for Farmworkers Student Action with Farmworkers	<p>This year, many of the service providers who normally visit migrant labor camps to provide in-person health education, language classes, and connections to other resources are suspending or drastically reducing their in-person outreach work. Migrant farmworkers urgently need access to internet so that they can still access these services as well as the latest information about COVID-19 from the Governor's office, NCDHHS and the CDC.</p> <p>We are asking the NC General Assembly to include funding for broadband internet in their COVID-19 response, so that farmers and other migrant housing providers can install high speed internet that can accommodate video calls or live internet broadcasts in all housing.</p>
04/28/2020 03:45 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	A statement of thanks... Merri Lyn Livingston	<p>As is the case with many other NC residents, I am one small part of the group that is temporarily unemployed due to the Covid19 situation.</p> <p>I am grateful to be receiving UI benefits but I also realize that there are many who, for whatever reason, don't qualify for this. I can only hope that by now many more residents have received the one time payment. I realize the many people are anxious about our current circumstances but I'm grateful for the actions of our Governor and the many state officials who are doing their very best to keep us safe, healthy and alive! I in NO WAY want them to rush the reopening of ANYTHING in our state unless they are confident that our state is on a consistent and downward trend which will then lead us ALL towards a healthy and SAFE reopening of our ENTIRE STATE!</p> <p>So Governor and Staff keep doing exactly what you are doing and please don't doubt that there are many who see that you are doing the right thing! Many thanks to you all!</p>
04/28/2020 05:17 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Laura Haldane	It's time to let young healthy people go back to work and to open up businesses. Data is revealing more and more that this coronavirus is not as virulent as originally thought. For the overwhelming majority of young people without serious health conditions, COVID-19 is mild or asymptomatic.
04/28/2020 05:19 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs. Hayden Constance	Expand Medicaid expansion
04/28/2020 05:20 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs. hayden constance	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.
04/28/2020 06:23 PM	Health Care Working	Bessie Keaton	I support Medicaid expansion to provide healthcare coverage to the previously uninsured

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	Group		as well as those who have lost coverage as a result of losing their jobs in the COVID-19 crisis.
04/28/2020 06:29 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Bessie Keaton	I support allowing citizens of North Carolina to exercise our right to vote without risking our health, or worse, our lives, and making voting more accessible to all voters, by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o making voting by mail more accessible; o increasing public promotion of absentee vote-by-mail option; and o ensuring free return mail postage on absentee ballots.
04/28/2020 06:32 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Bessie Keaton	I support providing paid sick days, family leave, and full unemployment benefits for all impacted workers, including "gig workers," as well as equitable support for vulnerable small businesses.
04/28/2020 09:00 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	MR. SHAWN JOHNSON	We need mail in voting now more than ever. We have a pandemic virus all over our country. Get it done or WE THEE PEOPLE will vote you out of office.
04/28/2020 10:06 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr Paul Meier	North Carolina needs to follow the path outlined by Gov. Copper in order to open the economy safely. If the state do not follow the guidelines then a second wave of the Covid19 is almost guaranteed. Not only will a business that opened early have to shut due to a lack of trained workers but it puts the reputation of those businesses at risk.
04/29/2020 01:29 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Covid-19 & Gov. Cooper Heather Jones	I am very happy with the decisions Gov. Cooper has made. I know this is a very hard time for our state but I feel like he is putting our health first.
04/29/2020 07:28 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Sandra Holcombe	Reopen NC. Economy is failing. Deaths from Covid-19 are minimal compared to entire population.
04/29/2020 08:54 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Meredith Heywood	It is time to set apart differences and work together to hole NC together during a time of crisis. I could not support Governor Copper more as he helps us through these times. I am fully supporting the stay at home order, wearing a mask when I pick up groceries, we are doing our part to flatten the virus. I am not a supporter of the protesters, many of us feel like they are undoing all our hard work. It makes me sad that they hold no respect for our healthcare workers. We all have rights, I feel like they are taking my rights away from me. If they feel so strongly I would hope they would find a way to help, delivery food, check on neighbors, go help at the local hospital, make mask, donate to the food bank. Let us all work together.
04/29/2020 10:07 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs. Carol Roberts	It's important to amend the 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 could be unmanageable.
			Voter registration should be easily available on line. The state should assume the costs for mailing in an absentee ballot.

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04/29/2020 11:48 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Andria Krewson	<p>Regarding unemployment compensation, two points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please raise the 20% cap on exempt earnings while receiving unemployment compensation. The existing cap discourages workers from earning above the cap and keeps them at near-poverty levels of income. Their option is to do as workers in other states have done, asking to be paid "under the table," which then denies tax to the state; - Please delete the rule that counts pension earnings against unemployment compensation eligibility, reducing or eliminating compensation. Current rules exempt social security income from being counted against unemployment compensation. It makes no sense to treat private or state-paid pension income differently. <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
04/29/2020 12:00 PM	Economic Support Working Group	MS DORIS H. KIDWELL	<p>Please follow health guidelines and time lines as suggested by our NC governor in reopening our businesses.</p> <p>I do not want to start over this isolation program in a month just because we couldn't stay the course to be safe!</p> <p>We need testing and follow up on contacts to stop the virus.</p> <p>Please be strong, do your job and protect NC voters.</p> <p>We are all AMERICANS!</p>
04/29/2020 08:10 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs Rhonda Banks	<p>REOPEN NC!!! THIS IS INSANITY TO KEEP THE STATE CLOSE WHEN THE DEATHS ARE BEING FALSELY REPORTED, INFLATED BY CALLING EVERY DEATH A COVID-19 DEATH REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT THE VIRUS EVEN CONTRIBUTED TO THE DEATH. WE DEAL WITH WORSE VIRUSES AND RISKS EVERY YEAR IN THIS COUNTRY AND YOU ARE DAMAGING OUR ECONOMY, OUR CHILDREN'S EDUCATION, OUR BUSINESSES, AND OR PHYSICAL & MENTAL HEALTH BY SHUTTING DOWN OUR STATE. I WILL NOT COMPLY WITH YOUR ORDERS ANY LONGER AND YOUR CITIZENS DESERVE TO LIVE LIFE, HAVE LIBERTY, AND PURSUE HAPPINESS INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO REAP THE REWARDS OF OUR OWN LABOR. STOP THIS INSANITY NOW!</p>
04/30/2020 07:18 AM	Health Care Working Group	Amy Glass	<p>I am counting on the NCGA to support Medicaid expansion, providing coverage and access to health care for 500,000 of my fellow North Carolinians who cannot afford coverage or who may not have a job.</p>
04/30/2020 07:20 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Amy Glass	<p>I support critical economic relief for those impacted by COVID-19 (Paid sick days and family leave, and full unemployment benefits) submit your comments to this working group. For more information, read this NC Justice report on the stabilizing effect of unemployment insurance during an economic downturn: https://www.ncjustice.org/publications/sound-unemployment-insurance-that-serves-workers-is-critical/</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
04/30/2020 07:21 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Amy Glass	<p>I support making voting by mail much more accessible including free return mail postage (while ensuring accuracy and reliability in the process), address your comments to this working group. For more information read Protecting our democracy in North Carolina during the COVID-19 crisis - https://www.commoncause.org/north-carolina/democracy-wire/protecting-our-democracy-in-north-carolina-during-the-covid-19-crisis/</p>
04/30/2020 07:23 AM	Education Working	Select One Amy Glass	<p>As this crisis has surely demonstrated, our teachers and public school administrators are</p>

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
	Group		among the most essential of employees. By raising teacher salaries and supporting public school districts across the state, we create an educated citizenry that is able to make sound decisions and lead us into a brighter future. I support public education!
04/30/2020 08:54 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Barbara Perkins	Has anyone looked into what document authorizes the governor to shut down the state and if there is a time limit on his authority?
04/30/2020 09:19 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Unemployment claims Michael	Taking down the Unemployment website for maintenance was a terrible choice. It has been down for days. I have been unable to get help with my claim for a month. It's demoralizing
04/30/2020 10:42 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Anita Baldi	Allow VOTE BY MAIL in all elections for the foreseeable future. It's a no-brainer, people!
04/30/2020 12:15 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mr. Charles Murphy	I strongly urge NC legislators to approve mail-in voting in the November election (and to continue after that). It's safe and convenient and likely to be widely used. The objections about the heightened chance of voter fraud are not backed by any reliable data. This is a chance to be progressive, North Carolina.
04/30/2020 01:42 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mr Stephen Weissman	Now is the time to expand Medicare coverage.
04/30/2020 02:01 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Catherine Buttler	I support continued slow opening of non-essential businesses in NC. Governor Cooper is doing an excellent job.
04/30/2020 02:05 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs. Carol Weaver	I urge you to address federal grants our state could access to protect voters and provide safe access to voting in North Carolina in the upcoming general election. The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) grants North Carolina \$11.6 million and the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) grants the state \$10.9 million to provide voter access and safety in the 2020 general election. North Carolina must add 20% to each grant amount in order to secure the federal funds. I appeal to you and the Continuity of State Operations Working Group to recommend the appropriation of state funds for this purpose.
04/30/2020 02:05 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms. Catherine Buttler	I strongly support a Voting by Mail option for the upcoming November elections.
04/30/2020 02:21 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections &	Louise McCoy	In order for all voices to be heard in our democracy, I'm asking legislators to protect the vote by promoting absentee vote-by-mail and providing postage paid return envelopes for ballots. I also urge you please to expand the early voting period. Thank you!

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
	Public Safety) Working Group		
04/30/2020 02:51 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Lisa Grele Barrie	PLEASE expand Medicaid to cover 500,000 additional North Carolinians. This will 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.
04/30/2020 02:52 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms. Lisa Grele Barrie	PLEASE 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.
04/30/2020 03:37 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Mrs Allene Perkins	We must open our economy. North Carolinians will not be able to recover if we do not open soon! Please open our economy.
04/30/2020 03:54 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Margaret Smith	Please make sure to include in funding request language for historically underutilized small businesses in collaboration with the Office for Historically Underutilized Businesses.
04/30/2020 09:56 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs Rebecca Burmester	COVID 19 has made it very necessary that NC expand Medicaid at this time.
05/01/2020 02:39 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Chris Lougee	Hello. I wish to inform you I would like my rights, and my communities rights back. I feel we are all capable,competent and compassionate enough to dictate our selves with respect to the situation at hand. Thank you!
05/01/2020 05:43 AM	Health Care Working Group	Sandra Sosne	Medicaid needs to be expanded! I can't understand why NC has not done so. Not only will it help so many people in need, but it would be paid for by the government. The excuse that the government will not pay in the future is a very poor one.
05/01/2020 05:47 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Sandra Sosne	Absentee vote-by-mail forms and postage paid return envelopes for ballots should be available for all residents of NC. Not only should they be available, but especially during this pandemic, they should be advertised and promoted.
05/01/2020 06:48 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Dr. Eric Smith	We need to open this state. We are still operating off of models and ignoring the real data that shows this virus does NOT deserve the radical approach of lockdowns. Our state is only beginning to feel the financial repercussions of this. We need to open the state back up with precautions, but open! Normal public health process is to isolate the sick, not to isolate the healthy. This prevents herd immunity and makes a second wave inevitable. More people will die from the lockdowns than will succumb to the virus.
05/01/2020 09:29 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working	qekratom qekratom	jb kratomwhat.weebly.com kratom und cbd forum

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	Group		
05/01/2020 10:03 AM	Economic Support Working Group		Please re-look at Governor Cooper's Phase 1. It doesn't make sense that all small businesses can not open if they abide by the same sanitation and social distancing rules. And churches! Please do the right thing.
05/01/2020 11:23 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Laura Haldane	Our Constitution does not give our Governor dictatorial powers. This is no longer an emergency. It is time for legislators to do their jobs, represent the people, and end the Governor's dictates. Data and facts do not support lock down policies. Fact 1: The overwhelming majority of people do not have any significant risk of dying from COVID-19. Fact 2: Protecting older, at-risk people eliminates hospital overcrowding. Fact 3: Vital population immunity is prevented by total isolation policies, prolonging the problem. Fact 4: People are dying and facing permanent disability because other medical care is not getting done. Fact 5: We have a clearly defined population at risk who can be protected with targeted measures.
05/01/2020 03:37 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Eric Treants	As a citizen of NC, I am asking that we do not reopen our state or enter phase 1 until the 14 days decline has been achieved. We are not ready to open on May 8th. Also what protection will be put in place for those with underlying medical conditions? Will our jobs be protected if we follow CDC guidelines? There must be some protection for us!
05/01/2020 03:42 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Diana Boseman	Governer Cooper, you have stated that we would not reopen until we have 14 consecutive days if downward trends. After looking at the NC Dashboard we are NOT on track to reopen on the 8th. Stay true to your word and do not open us too early. Lives depend on YOU. You have many that support you, the polls show it. You just don't hear us trying to break in your back gate because we are smart enough to stay home like you have asked.
05/01/2020 03:46 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Ms. Katherine Dennett	We should reopen when guidelines are met, 14 days of a decrease in cases.
05/01/2020 04:10 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Magda Mendoza	Stay closed. WNC does not have the medical resources to handle a wave through the Smoky Mountains. We are a 300 bed hospital with no ICU facilities. Mountain people will not go to ER if they are sick. They will stay home and potentially infect their entire family. NC does not have expanded Medicaid. People here are poor. They won't go to ER either. Science beats out anecdotal information. Work on DES issues. Get people paid. Clean house! Do right by NC.
05/01/2020 04:55 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms Vickie Youngblood	PLEASE do not open us up too soon. The New York times data survey said that Durham, Chapel Hill and Raleigh are on target to be the next HOT SPOT!!! We need to protect ourselves!!!
05/01/2020 04:59 PM	Economic Support Working Group	Michele Hobaugh	Stay home!!!!
05/01/2020 07:30 PM	Economic Support	Linda Neal	Request to delay level 1 until we have 14 days of decline of covid19 cases. Please put

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	Working Group		public health ahead of politics or economy.
05/01/2020 08:23 PM	Health Care Working Group	Mrs. Dianne Burrow	I think at this point all the government can do is suggest, without getting extreme backlash. Those who feel the need to resume their lives outside can do so. And those of us that decide to quarantine can do that as well. The chips will fall as they may. Then PERHAPS (highly doubtful) people will take the consequences of their own actions without blaming anyone else!
05/01/2020 09:54 PM	Education Working Group	Belle Long	Please do not supercede the governor's closure order. He is basing his decisions on science, not politics. It is not time to "re-open NC" yet.
05/01/2020 11:20 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group		Please make sure that we follow the 14 day rule before we enter phase one. My teens have been home since the start of this. They don't want to leave now. Words of wisdom from them...we didn't stay home this long to screw it up now!
05/02/2020 07:52 AM	Health Care Working Group	Paul Gainey	Hello, can we please only enter Phase 1 after 14 days of decline in cases? I am afraid for my safety and that of our most vulnerable as this return is too early. Thank you!
05/02/2020 08:02 AM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Karl Umble	I fully support Governor Cooper's and Dr. Cohen's plan to only loosen restrictions after the public health data show that we should. This will enable us to reduce virus transmission to a level where we can much more profitably use containment strategies of testing and tracing, and ultimately lead to more rapid economic opening and expansion. It will also lessen the chances or significance of a resurgence in the fall, coinciding with influenza, which could be as bad or worse than the present situation and overwhelm the health system. Public health experts are right: if we move too soon, we undo the benefits of the restrictions we have already had. Opening up is a good thing to pursue, but we must not jump the gun. Let us be wise. Thank you.
05/02/2020 08:44 AM	Education Working Group	ms Frances Strombotne	enter phase 1 only after 14 days of decline or leveled off!
05/02/2020 09:48 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Stay Home until it's safe Al DeCarlo	Please! enter phase 1 only after 14 days of decline or leveled off
05/02/2020 12:40 PM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Paige Pavlik	Please do not be intimidated by the people with Automatic rifles. Governor Cooper has an excellent plan and we should stick to it. And Dan Forest should be supporting the Governor. Yes, he wants his job, but he proves himself untrustworthy. Please stick to the plan to save lives. Stop the people from protesting..... these people make our state look non professional and will hurt new people from coming to this state to live.
05/02/2020 01:11 PM	Health Care Working Group	Anne Burke	This is the time to finally expand Medicaid in NC. We must protect the health of so many vulnerable men, women and children across our State. Covid-19 is affecting low income and uninsured citizens in much higher rates. Partly because these are folks working on the frontlines of our economy and health care. Please do right by North Carolina by passing Medicaid Expansion now.
05/02/2020 02:08 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency	richard fetter	When the act of voting during a medical pandemic becomes a danger to the citizen the State is encumbered to strive to reduce or eliminate that danger while continuing the right

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	Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group		to vote. In this age and time that is most safely, and most resistant to fraud. accomplished utilizing absentee ballots. Electronic voting is simply not mature enough yet to give the same level of fraud protection and internet access is not available to all citizens (much less secure internet access). It is therefore essential to expand absentee voting to all citizens for the upcoming elections to preserve their rights.
05/02/2020 06:13 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms. Fawn Alfrey	So why does the VETO-proof super majority not stop Gov. Cooper? I use to blame this all on Mr. Cooper, but I find you just as complacent as him in this unjustified and prolonged shutdown. You are depriving me of my rights based on models that are starting to be shown as nothing more than a worst case scenario guess. I am afraid you have been exposed for the power hungry politicians that you are. Open our state up and bypass our fickle and partisan governor. All jobs are essential if it puts food on the table. QUIT picking winners and losers.... I hope you all are held accountable at the ballot box in Nov!!!
05/03/2020 12:21 AM	Health Care Working Group	Re-opening Audrie Keen	Please do not open N.C. until we have seen a decline in the number of cases of Covid-19.
05/03/2020 03:24 AM	Economic Support Working Group	Keep NC Closed Rose Mason	Please extend the stay at home order for a few more weeks. Our state has so many sick people. It's too soon to reopen NC
05/03/2020 08:39 AM	Education Working Group	Mrs. Adrienne Little	End cash bail.
05/03/2020 07:26 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Please extend stay home Robert May	Please follow VA's example and delay reopening possibilities until June 10. Please keep us safe and don't reopen too soon.
05/03/2020 08:44 PM	Health Care Working Group	Victoria Conn	I am very concerned about the continued upward trends of the Covid-19 cases. I do agree with the 14 days of decline in cases before starting phase 1.
05/04/2020 01:08 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms. Megan Foster	Hi, First let me thank you for all the hours you all must be putting in right now. I can not imagine all the work you are all doing and I am eternally grateful to have a place to voice my concerns where I feel heard and represented. I am writing to you again about this because what I was afraid of has come to pass and dentist offices ARE opening up and doing ELECTIVE treatment WITHOUT proper PPE or new procedures in place and NOT following OSHA or CDC recommendations due to no mandates were placed in NC! I am sure you have a dentist on staff asking them questions please I beg of you as a virologist or epidemiologist about aerosols and protection of the patients in an open bay or regular dentist office with no air purifier or doors on rooms PLEASE. So now you have a terrifying situation of people coming into dental offices for elective treatment thinking they are safe because they trust their dentist (the dentist has been put in a tough spot because there is not enough money or time to get the proper PPE or Retrofit their office with air purifiers and doors on rooms etc. they need financial help by the boat load to help make dental offices safe and are being forced to decide between killing some employees and patients or going out of business and being bankrupt not an okay place to be but still shouldn't choose money over LIVES). This patient comes in and takes their mask off that they have been told to wear to keep them safe at the grocery store. They take it off in a room where others are having their teeth cleaned and aerosols are everywhere (open bays are in every pediatric office where the dental chairs are 3 feet apart 6 to 12 chairs in a room all going

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			<p>at one time and yes I know of pediatric office opening on Monday the 11th with a FULL hygiene schedule). Now they, and whoever brought them in the case of a child patient, are breathing in everyone that is currently in the office getting work done but also everyone from the appointments prior to them too aerosolized germs for what they are thinking is a safe elective procedure! The hygienist will only have one gown to wear all day long (because proper PPE is just not available and some dentists don't go by recommended - one of the dentists that I work for is opening on the 11th and has already stated a regular lab coat will be worn all day(not full length gown) and then I need to take it home and wash it (osha says he has to wash it at the site or provide disposable but again recommendations not mandates) .. so think about this.. I clean your teeth there is splatter on my arms and chest then I clean the next person I guarantee my arms will come in contact with the next patient no doubt it has to happen for me to do my job.. HOW is it ok for them to say I can't afford or get you what you need to keep you and your patients safe but I am opening anyway and if you don't show up you are fired(This is what is happening all over NC). So that is bad enough but he also does not have N95 masks for us (texas just made that a mandate because they had dentist like mine and so many others in NC that were going to open with the level 3 masks which osha and cdc have come out and said is a moderate risk) no face shields because they are on back order, I will be doing my own washing of a regular lab coat at home with the splatter of 10+ patients on it SO I am going in extremely under protected and putting every patient I see in danger. But if I am not ok with this I loose my job and any life lines out there.. This is not just me or a rare thing it is all over the Hygiene groups everyone is telling the same terrifying story. This is insane to put this many people at risk because the governor has yet to put out a mandate about ELECTIVE dental treatment.Of course emergency dental needs to stay open.. one patient in office at a time with all precautions taken. But because of inaction we have regular and pediatric offices (not the pediatric one I work for because by chance we are moving buildings this month just my general dentist I work for is opening) opening on Monday and will put so so many people at risk with schedules FULL of ELECTIVE treatment!! They are going against NEW OSHA guidelines and NEW CDC recommendations but they can't mandate we need government involvement I BEG YOU!!!! PLEASE I AM NOW HAVING TO CHOOSE BETWEEN LIVING with ZERO INCOME AND BEING BLACK BALLED FOR FUTURE WORK OR DYING AND ITS IS AVOIDABLE WITH YOUR HELP. Just wait a little longer for more testing on best way to remove the aerosols and best PPE and for that PPE to be AVAILABLE to all and make it a LAW that they use the correct PPE and ways to manage the aerosols. Some states have mandated no use for 120 days of the cavitron (ultra sonic scalers) air water syringe, high speed hand pieces(drills) so that testing can be performed on best way to control the aerosols, So for a cleaning I could hand scale the debris and brush your teeth with a toothbrush.. That is way below standard of care but at least fewer people will die from elective treatment(still have people with no mask on breathing on us from 6 -12 inches away all day and all their germs on the coat I have to wear all day long) I am attaching as much as I can - some will be links some will be screen shots highlighting the parts of the links showing the CDC and OSHA recommendations. I am so disappointed in the ADA for stating they never said they had to shut down elective treatment but they also recommend following all cdc and osha rules - they are giving them an out instead of advocating for financial help to retrofit. Once it is ok to perform elective tx the dentist or anyone else in dentistry can no longer qualify for help because they CAN work IF they want to so all life lines are taken away so they are more desperate and make the choice to risk</p>

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			<p>peoples lives instead of going bankrupt. So would you go in and be the last patient of the day, taking your mask off in a room full of germs, laying basically in my lap with my coat that has splatter from my last 10 patients rubbing on your face and hair? Would you send your mom do that? If not then please help me by making this a mandate not recommendations and help these dentists to not loose their practices while spending so much money to retrofit their offices and get the new updated PPE!! And let the PUBLIC KNOW of the dangers of going to the dentist right now!!! The other thing to consider is what happens when (and it will happen) a patient who we saw in the office 2 days ago at the beginning of the day calls and lets us know they have tested positive for covid now will the entire office have to be quarantined for 14 days, do we call the other 15 to 50 (pediatric office this is probable number) patients that were exposed, is the dentist office now liable for those infections and deaths, (malpractice insurance has already sated they will not cover covid related claims) I don't have those answers do you?? I should have stated earlier I am all for opening up most of the places that have been closed down but elective dentistry is in a class all its own !! We are more at risk than a respiratory therapist (see chart I attached last message) and have none of the protections!! Please please take this seriously I am begging ask someone who is not a dentist! There is no way that Phase one (and honestly probably not phase 2) should include elective dental treatment when you are still requiring more time to go back into places where it is possible to social distance and only with masks on. That is very different than saying it is okay for someone to basically lay in my lap 6 to 12 inches from my face without a mask on breathing in every patient's germs I have worked on for the last 3 hours (actually every patient in the whole office that has been worked on for the past 3 hours) while I make aerosols??!!!! I and so many other people need your help with this not just the dental community but the patients too.. Thank you Megan Foster RDH</p>
05/04/2020 01:33 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Megan Foster	<p>Hi, I just submitted a comment but ran out of room to put the links I wanted to have for supporting information so I am putting them here. In both the OSHA AND THE CDC links you will see that they both unequivocally recommend NO ELECTIVE DENTAL TREATMENT RIGHT NOW. Partly due to lack of quality PPE and partly due to needing to do some testing to see how we can make it safe not only for the workers who have on the PPE but for the patient with the open mouth!! As you can see by the third link Texas made it a LAW that the dentists had to provide N95 masks or not open and some of them thought that they could still get around that by doing something that is listed in the OSHA mask explanations as a MODERATE risk - I will not even have that good of PPE because no one in NC has made laws and told the dentists they HAVE TO FOLLOW the rules!! It should not be the "wild west do the best you can" situation out here... this is ELECTIVE treatment and they need to stop lobbying to open and start lobbying for money to help them get their offices up to par before risking everyone's lives !! Please I am begging you to not have my children grow up without any parents!! I really am praying they don't have to read the goodbye letters I have already had to write them ,but if you don't help they most likely will because I will be flooded with aerosols every day with inferior PPE and no way to control the aerosols , so as a lifelong asthmatic I will go down most likely when I get it from bathing in others germs all day working without proper precautions in place. Please help me Megan Foster RDH</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/dental-settings.html https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/dentistry.html</p>

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			http://tsbde.texas.gov/mask-clarification-statement/
05/04/2020 05:29 AM	Economic Support Working Group	gakratom gakratom	lk kratomwhat.weebly.com cloud 9 kratom
05/04/2020 05:29 AM	Education Working Group	sekratom sekratom	ru kratomwhat.weebly.com kratom connection
05/04/2020 07:35 AM	Education Working Group	Stephanie Brown	<p>Internet as a public utility.</p> <p>We need stronger Internet and broadband THROUGHOUT North Carolina. K-12 and college students in rural areas cannot do their homework. See https://www.wunc.org/post/lack-broadband-internet-obstacle-rural-students</p> <p>Please repeal SESSION LAW 2011-84 HOUSE BILL 129 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> <p>Thank you.</p>
05/04/2020 07:36 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>
05/04/2020 09:29 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Ms. Lara Carter	<p>I DO NOT in any way support the state opening up on May 8 for ANY reason. I am 55, with a susceptibility to blood clots after having had one in 1997. Medical professionals are seeing clots accompanying Covid-19 infections now and, as terrifying as that experience was, I don't want to be put in the position where I might catch the virus from someone who is NOT wearing a mask OR social distancing (both of which I do religiously) and dying from it because I get clots, when that could be avoided by not opening the state too soon.</p> <p>Also, in the Greensboro area where I live, there are tons of people not wearing masks in public, and not practicing social distancing. If you relax the state stay-in-place order, you will be encouraging people to relax their guard (human nature) and start gathering in public places past the stipulated maximum of 10 people. I'm concerned that others will stop wearing masks, as well. Things are NOT safe enough to do this.</p> <p>And "essential" businesses are NOT bookstores or clothing stores. You can order both online (I adore my Barnes and Noble but I can easily order on Amazon or the B&N website and NOT risk getting sick.) These businesses should NOT open.</p> <p>Thank you. Lara Carter</p>

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05/04/2020 10:24 AM	Economic Support Working Group		Greensboro NC Re look at Phase 1! It is too strict. NC has flattened the curve, we need to get back to work.
05/04/2020 11:01 AM	Health Care Working Group	Dr. Callan White	<p>Dear COVID-19 Committee,</p> <p>Recently there was an effort made by the American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA) to email state governors and other representatives advocating that dental hygienists have "access to appropriate PPE," but more emphatically supporting the CDC recommendations to "postpone elective procedures, surgeries, and non-urgent dental visits, and prioritize urgent and emergency visits and procedures now and for the coming several weeks."</p> <p>I am a member of organized dentistry, however, today I am writing as a concerned dentist, small business owner, and citizen. These statements made by the ADHA have far reaching implications for not only the sound science of oral health education, but also the inconsistent communication that now exists between what the dental community believes and what they are asserting. It is hard to reconcile these statements when considering the foundational axioms of dentistry. I believe in these truths and have devoted my professional existence to them.</p> <p>Furthermore, I believe in the hygienists and their role as oral health providers. I know their capability, training, and education. If they are postponing their return to work, then there are only two explanations: one, they have a lack of trust in the values of the office where they are currently employed, or two, there exists inconsistencies or strife between them as a person and their role as a hygienist.</p> <p>In regards to the first explanation, employee and patient safety is of utmost importance in dentistry. Dentists are legally responsible to provide adequate PPE and provide training in universal precautions and infection control that protect the entire team and patients. If an individual hygienist lacks confidence in the ability of his or her employer to adequately follow all guidelines, that is an issue separate from our current pandemic, and should be addressed without the need for sweeping generalizations across the entire profession. Ultimately, we have legal obligations that our team values and when considering these obligations for all of dentistry, we can sufficiently rule out the first explanation as the impetus for the statement made by the ADHA.</p> <p>I have met with my team, including the hygienists, to review our plan to return to work. I have reviewed our existing OSHA and infection control standards as well as our new COVID protocols. I have tailored our decisions and implementations to appropriately respond to our specific location and situation. I value my hygienists and their input.</p> <p>However, related to the second explanation, I am competing with the message that is being sent out by the ADHA. There are providers in situations and locations that may not want to return to work at this time. They will have to make this decision in these specific circumstances. However, making global statements for all hygienists as it relates to legislative decisions for this pandemic is not helpful or good for oral healthcare.</p>

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
			<p>For those hygienists, where there exist inconsistencies and strife between them personally and their role as a hygienist, and for those officials in the ADHA who have formed this official position, there will never be an amount of time sufficient enough to reconcile this relationship between themselves and the inherent risks of hygiene. These hygienists have lost sight of the facts with which they have been educating their patients for years. Namely, that periodontal treatments are not elective, but in fact an integral intervention for treating oral disease and supporting the systemic health of our patients.</p> <p>We have always based the practice of dentistry and dental hygiene on research, and we know the science. We know that the exceptional care our hygienists provide not only improves our patients' oral health, but is directly related to their systemic health and underlying conditions, many of which ultimately are risk factors and associated with comorbidities of COVID-19. If we allow the fears of the ADHA to postpone this crucial care for our patients, oral infections and bacteria have the potential to exacerbate our patients' heart disease, diabetes, and overall immune health, exposing them to increased complications with exposure to COVID-19. We as professionals have pledged to do no harm; how can we call ourselves health care providers if we turn our backs on the health of the patients whom we have sworn to protect?</p> <p>Please consider my statements in future legislative decisions pertaining to healthcare and returning to work. Our patients need us back, all of us back, soon.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Callan D. White, DDS Editor, NC Academy of General Dentistry Past President, NC Academy of General Dentistry</p>
05/04/2020 11:05 AM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Emily McNair	<p>The right to cast a vote....safely and without fear....is the foundation of our Democracy. Ensuring the right to vote in November for all North Carolinians' is a nonpartisan issue and should be a bipartisan effort. I want to urge you to provide funds for our State Board of Elections so that they can promote and provide more access to voter-by-mail options. To also provide funding so that county election boards will have the flexibility to increase early voting and to recruit and compensate poll workers. Since the average age is 70, there is no doubt that we will experience a shortage of workers, if Covid-19 is still disrupting our lives. Finally, I ask you to ensure the safety of polling places by providing resources so that they will be properly sanitized.</p> <p>These are all common sense steps that will help to instill trust and integrity in our Voting System. Voting is a sacred right. I am trusting that the plans and decisions you make regarding the November Election will be transparent and open to the public. In this crazy time we are living in, I ask you to ensure the safety for every eligible North Carolina voter.</p>

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			With respect and gratitude, Emily Warren McNair
05/04/2020 11:13 AM	Health Care Working Group	Barbara Perkins	<p>http://www.wakegov.com/news/Lists/Posts/Post.aspx?ID=1234</p> <p>Wake County is lending sterilizing cabinets to local first responders.</p> <p>I would like to know if we are testing people posthumously and including those statistics in our daily counts as they are NOT NEW cases that could infect others. I understand their contacts could but any of these statistics should be excluded from decision models. Same holds for contained residents. The employees from the facility should be counted but not the residents, especially while they are closed to visitors.</p>
05/04/2020 11:38 AM	Health Care Working Group	Carter Worthy	I realize that Medicaid expansion has been a contentious political issue. But it is a common sense BUDGET issue to accept more federal money to cover health care for half a million North Carolinians, especially when we are already paying for it! So come on, you stubborn holdouts! There will never be an easier or more defensible time to concede this point. And indeed, the current fiscal situation demands it.
05/04/2020 11:48 AM	Health Care Working Group	Ms Erica Laliberte	<p>Hygienists all over the country are concerned about the potential exposure to our patients for covid 19 based on the aerosols that our equipment generates during routine cleanings. patients will obviously NOT be wearing masks during treatment and will have their mouths open. Dental hygienists are in the highest risk category as well as the patients we see for covid 19. This virus is airborne for 3 hours that we know of, putting every patient at risk through the day of treating 8-9 patients per day. Guidelines have not been clear enough and most dental practices are not obtaining air purifiers or proper PPE.</p> <p>We ask that you delay routine care in dental practices until guidelines are clear from ADA, OSHA, and CDC.</p> <p>For the safety of the general population, we appreciate your consideration.</p>
05/04/2020 01:03 PM	Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety) Working Group	Robert Bannerman	As a senior citizen, I am very concerned about the procedures for exercising my right to vote during the COVID-19 pandemic. Like a lot of voters, I will most likely be requesting an absentee ballot so that I do not have to take the risk of appearing in person at the polls in November. In that regard, I strongly support the March 26, 2020 letter from the NC State Board of Elections containing Recommendations to Address Election-Related Issues Affected by COVID-19, and I urge the NC General Assembly to promptly implement those recommendations.