

MEDICAID EXPANSION

Date: March 15, 2022

To All Participants in the Friends Committee on North Carolina Legislation

Led by our testimonies of Equality and Community, please help us close the Medicaid Coverage Gap in North Carolina by writing to the leaders of the Joint Legislative Committee on Access to Healthcare and Medicaid Expansion today!

A recent development - a potential game-changer - is that a joint NC House-Senate panel is currently studying health care access and possible expansion. It is possible that a vote on Medicaid expansion could occur this fall!

So now is the time to let committee members know that you support Medicaid Expansion to protect the health of our fellow North Carolinians and the economic future of the healthcare businesses in North Carolina!

Please introduce yourselves as members of Friends Committee on North Carolina Legislation and if possible, use a personal story about the impact that falling into the coverage gap had for you, your friends or family.

Address your emails to the Co-Chairs and Vice Chair of the Legislative Committee on Access to Healthcare and Medicaid Expansion:

Senator Joyce Krawiec, Co-Chair: Joyce.Krawiec@ncleg.gov

Representative Donny Lambeth, Co-Chair: Donny.Lambeth@ncleg.gov

Representative Larry Potts, Vice Chair: Larry.Potts@ncleg.gov

Also, please **contact your representatives** and ask them to make these concerns known to the Joint Legislative Committee and call for action to expand Medicaid.

And finally, **send a short letter to the editor** of your local newspaper calling for action by the legislature to expand Medicaid and *include the names of your representatives and the Chairs of the Legislative Committee on Access to Healthcare and Medicaid Expansion in the letter.*

To see the [**FCNCL Fact Sheet**](#) on this topic click [here](#).

Our suggested script for an email or phone call follows:

"Hello, my name is _____ and I'm from (town) and am a member of the Friends Committee on North Carolina Legislation, an organization created to advocate for legislation and good government practices that embody the Quaker testimonies of peace, simplicity, equality, community, integrity and stewardship.

I am contacting your office to ask you to please support a broad expansion of Medicaid in North Carolina. As a Quaker it is my belief, based on our testimonies of Equality and Community, that quality healthcare should be available to all. Yet here in North

Carolina, despite the COVID-19 pandemic, this is not the case. We see the potential for the poorest and most vulnerable among us to bear the greatest burden. North Carolina is one of just a dozen states that hasn't expanded Medicaid to working adults as provided under the 2010 federal health care law. About 600,000 working North Carolinians currently ineligible for Medicaid and who cannot afford health insurance would be covered by expanding Medicaid.

We believe that Medicaid expansion would create the best opportunity for a comprehensive solution to the healthcare needs associated with COVID-19 and other critical illnesses. The American Rescue Plan provides additional funds to support Medicaid expansion; our funding obligation has been cut to 5% of the total cost, with no need to cost share for at least six years. Expanding Medicaid coverage would also extend a lifeline to rural hospitals, create thousands of jobs, and provide access to health care for substance abuse, diabetes, and other conditions.

Please support a broad expansion of Medicaid in North Carolina and help our state's uninsured gain access to the healthcare services they need. Thank you for your consideration of this matter."