

FCNCL ACTION ALERT MEDICAID EXPANSION HB 1040

To All Participants in the Friends Committee on North Carolina Legislation:

Now is a critical time to renew our calls for the expansion of Medicaid in North Carolina. Seven House Democrats have sponsored HB 1040, the Healthcare for Working North Carolinians Act (short title), which would expand Medicaid coverage to many more people in North Carolina.

This Action Alert urges you to contact your House Representative and State Senator to ask them to support HB 1040 and the expansion of the Medicaid program in response to Covid-19 crisis in our state. [You can read the bill here.](#) To find your representative and senator, use this link: <https://www.ncleg.gov/FindYourLegislators>

If the NC General Assembly expanded Medicaid, more than 500,000 North Carolinians would become eligible for the coverage they need to get care for chronic conditions, prevent illness and disease progression and live healthy, productive lives. Medicaid expansion would:

- Provide coverage to people who form the backbone of our economy and need access to care and services
- Help people get the medication and treatment they need, especially for substance use disorders or chronic conditions like diabetes
- Protect families from medical debt and bankruptcy
- Help rural hospitals that are struggling to keep up with providing care for uninsured people
- Create jobs and stimulate economic activity, especially in the healthcare industry

You may also want to contact Speaker Tim Moore and Senate President Phil Berger to ask them to bring this bill to the floor for open debate.

Tim Moore: 919-733-3451 or Tim.Moore@ncleg.net

Phil Berger: 919-733-5708 or Phil.Berger@ncleg.net

We encourage you to email us at info@fcncl.org and let us know you have contacted your representatives. Also, if you have any questions about this message or why you are receiving it, please contact us at the same address.

Our suggested script for an email or phone call follows:

“Hello, my name is _____ and I’m from (town) and am a member of 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 because 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 current 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. A large majority of uninsured and eligible individuals are children, and the majority of eligible but uninsured adults have incomes below poverty and only half live in a family with a worker. None of these individuals are immune to the virus, or of passing the virus on to others.

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. Therefore I am asking you to please support HB 1040, the Healthcare for Working North Carolinians Act. Expanding Medicaid coverage would also extend a lifeline to rural hospitals which may be overwhelmed by the COVID-19 epidemic, and which have had to postpone elective procedures that are an important source of their revenue.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. Please help our state’s uninsured gain access to the healthcare services so desperately needed at this time!”

FCNCL