



Established 1771

CHATHAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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COUNTY MANAGER

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Resolution of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners

IN FAVOR OF EXPANDING NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAID COVERAGE

WHEREAS, the governor's recommended budget and bills in the General Assembly (SB 3; HB 5) seek to expand Medicaid coverage to 500,000 uninsured people within the state's most vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, accepting federal funding to expand Medicaid not only will lower the share the state of North Carolina pays into the program from 33 to 10 percent, but also will bring its federal taxpayer dollars back home to serve its community's need; and

WHEREAS, the current costs of treating the uninsured fall heavily on our state and local institutions; and

WHEREAS, other states—such as Ohio, Louisiana, Montana, Michigan, and Arkansas--that have joined Medicaid expansion have seen significant health budget savings; and

WHEREAS, more than 1,800 people in Chatham County would qualify for the expanded program and realize improved health care, along with substance abuse and mental services; and

WHEREAS, studies in numerous professional journals, including the *New England Journal of Medicine* and *Health Affairs*, show Medicaid coverage improves health outcomes, reduces mortality, and protects patients from catastrophic medical bills; and

WHEREAS, the Chatham County Commissioners believe that 1) all Chatham residents should have reasonable access to quality, affordable health coverage, and 2) Chatham County would benefit from the economic stimulus, resultant jobs and reduced spending on the uninsured;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY THAT:

- 1) The Chatham County Commissioners urge the North Carolina General Assembly and the Governor to accept federal funds to expand Medicaid for the benefit of our citizens.
- 2) This resolution shall be effective on and after its passage.

Adopted, this the ____ day of _____.

Mike Dasher, Chairman
Chatham County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Lindsay K. Ray, NCCCC, Clerk to the Board
Chatham County Board of Commissioners