

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CLOSING NORTH CAROLINA'S
HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE GAP THROUGH MEDICAID EXPANSION

WHEREAS, people in the health insurance “coverage gap” earn too much income to qualify for Medicaid but do not earn enough to qualify for a subsidy in the private marketplace; and

WHEREAS, 8.9% of workers in Orange County are uninsured, according to an analysis from the Georgetown University Health Policy Institute; and

WHEREAS, closing the health insurance coverage gap through expansion of Medicaid would extend affordable health insurance coverage to 7254 people in Orange County and more than 600,000 people across the state who cannot access the health care they need; and

WHEREAS, federal funding from taxes that North Carolinians have already paid will cover 90% of costs for states closing the health insurance coverage gap to residents who need access to affordable health insurance; and

WHEREAS, according to the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Orange County had 13 deaths and 47 emergency department visits related to opioid overdose in 2019, and closing the health insurance coverage gap would provide access to behavioral health care to address the opioid epidemic; and

WHEREAS, healthy people and access to affordable health care are key to the Orange County and Carrboro economy; and

WHEREAS, closing the health insurance coverage gap would create 629 new jobs in Orange County, drive \$141,300,000 in new business activity in Orange County, and generate \$3,724,200 in new county revenue, according to an analysis by the Cone Health Foundation, the Milken Institute School of Public Health, and the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, urges the North Carolina General Assembly to close the health insurance coverage gap in North Carolina by passing Medicaid expansion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Council asks the town clerk to share this resolution with Representative Allen Buansi, Representative Renée Price, and Senator Graig Meyer.

This the 10th day of January, 2023.