

## **RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR MEDICAID EXPANSION IN NORTH CAROLINA**

**WHEREAS**, the recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling on healthcare reform makes Medicaid expansion optional for states, and

**WHEREAS**, to date, North Carolina has declined to join the majority of states in expanding Medicaid eligibility for low-income residents, and

**WHEREAS**, according to the study conducted by researchers at George Washington University and funded by the Cone Health Foundation and Kate Be Reynolds Charitable Trust, lack of Medicaid expansion not only means that hundreds of thousands of low income North Carolinians will remain uninsured, but also that hospital, physicians' offices, clinics, pharmacies and other health care providers have less revenue and bear more uncompensated care, and

**WHEREAS**, according to the same study, North Carolina would create 43,000 jobs and draw down \$21 billion in Federal funding over five years if state leaders agreed to expand Medicaid as allowed by the Affordable Care Act. If North Carolina does not expand Medicaid by 2016, \$21 billion in Federal matching funds will be lost between 2016 and 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, this study indicates that in Rockingham County, not expanding Medicaid by 2016 would lead to:

160 fewer jobs created in 2016 and 313 fewer jobs created in 2020

2,939 people who would not get Medicaid in 2016

\$80.6 million less growth to the county's economy from 2016 to 2020

\$126.9 million less in county business activity from 2016 to 2020

\$1.1 million less collected in county tax revenue from 2016 to 2020

**WHEREAS**, according to Susan Shumaker, president of Cone Health Foundation, "we have some of the most restrictive Medicaid eligibility requirements in the country," and

**WHEREAS**, a recent study by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Urban Institute, a philanthropy that advocates for public health, found North Carolina could lose as much as \$51 billion in federal Medicaid payments over the next 10 years if its program is not expanded, and

**WHEREAS**, the George Washington study estimated North Carolina lost \$2.7 billion in federal funding in 2014 and would lose \$3.3 billion in 2015 because the program was not expanded. It said 23,000 jobs were not created during 2014, along with another 6,000 projected for 2015.

**WHEREAS**, the study done at George Washington University estimated that as many as 300,000 North Carolinians would gain Medicaid coverage in 2016 if the program is expanded that year, with another 178,000 likely to enroll in 2017.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and the Eden City Council of Eden, North Carolina do hereby endorse the expansion of Medicaid in North Carolina and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and the Eden City Council of Eden, North Carolina will inform the general public and the Governor and members of the North Carolina Legislature of its endorsement of this Resolution,

Adopted this the 28<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015.

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Wayne R. Tuggle, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:

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Sheralene S. Thompson, CMC/MMC/NCCMC

City Clerk