

Resolution: In Support of Medicaid Expansion

WHEREAS, the Governor's Crime Commission recently surveyed law enforcement agencies, victim advocacy groups and the public about the needs and priorities within state and local justice systems. The survey showed that drug use and gun violence stand as the top two threats to Public Safety. Illegal drugs represent the largest emerging criminal justice issue for non-law enforcement respondents and second largest for law enforcement respondents after recruitment; and

WHEREAS, researchers from the University of North Carolina provided the findings and recommendations of the victims of crime needs assessment which addressed the rural barriers to accessing services; and

WHEREAS, in rural communities, the biggest mental health and substance abuse treatment facility often is the jail or detention center; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Governor's Crime Commission is to improve the quality of life for the citizens of the state, to enhance public safety, and to reduce and prevent crime by improving the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 143B-1101, the Governor's Crime Commission serves as the chief advisory body to the Governor and to the Secretary of Public Safety on matters pertaining to the criminal justice system;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governor's Crime Commission voted unanimously to adopt a resolution in support of expanding Medicaid in the upcoming state budget.

Adopted on Sept. 7, 2023, in Raleigh, N.C.

s/Chairman Robert Evans

s/Executive Director Caroline Farmer