

Resolution

URGING NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO EXPAND MEDICAID COVERAGE

- WHEREAS, healthy citizens and access to affordable healthcare are key to the Cherokee County economy;
- WHEREAS, expanding Medicaid would extend insurance to approximately 500,000 people across North Carolina;
- WHEREAS, our hospital estimates that the cost of treating uninsured patients is more than \$17 million per year;
- WHEREAS, research has shown that Medicaid expansion is associated with improved hospital financial performance in rural communities;
- WHEREAS, closing the coverage gap would create 43,000 new jobs in the state and generate billions of dollars in new North Carolina business activity;
- WHEREAS, federal funding will cover 90% of costs for states to expand Medicaid to citizens who need access to affordable health insurance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE 11th OF APRIL 2019 THAT:

Erlanger Western Carolina Hospital urges the North Carolina General Assembly to expand Medicaid in North Carolina as soon as possible.



Mark E. Kimball, FACHE
Erlanger Western Carolina Hospital
Chief Executive Officer



Michael J. Griffin
Erlanger Western Carolina Hospital
Board of Trustees, Chair



erlanger

Western Carolina Hospital