



*State of North Carolina  
Office of the Governor*

*Roy Cooper  
Governor*

March 28, 2022

*20301 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, N.C. 27699-0301*

The Honorable Richard Burr  
United States Senator  
217 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thom Tillis  
United States Senator  
113 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable G. K. Butterfield  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
2080 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Deborah Ross  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
1208 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Gregory Murphy  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
313 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David Price  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
2108 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Virginia Foxx  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
2462 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kathy Manning  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
415 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David Rouzer  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
2439 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard Hudson  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
2112 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Dan Bishop  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
1207 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patrick McHenry  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
2004 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Madison Cawthorn  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
102 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Alma Adams  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
2436 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-3312

The Honorable Ted Budd  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
103 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

*Location: The State Capitol Building, Raleigh, N.C. 27602  
Phone: 919-814-2100*

Dear North Carolina Congressional Delegation Members:

I am pleased to report that North Carolina's COVID-19 metrics continue to decline, ushering in a new phase of COVID-19 where the virus is still with us but not disrupting us. However, to succeed in this phase and not go backward, Congress must act immediately on the pending COVID-19 supplemental funding package so we can prepare for the next surge and stop it from overwhelming us. Failing to make these time-sensitive investments ignores the lessons we have learned about preparedness and threatens to undo the good work we have done to combat COVID-19 and move on with our lives.

Should Congress fail to act soon North Carolina's public health readiness will suffer. We desperately need stable, consistent federal funding for testing and treatment. Failing to make national investments in vaccines, boosters, therapeutics, and testing will take us backward against COVID-19 even as more transmissible variants proliferate elsewhere. Without a commitment to manufacturers from the federal government, production and supply will be insufficient when the next surge hits.

Failure to act will create procurement chaos not seen since the early days of the pandemic as states compete for testing and treatment resources. A single buy from the federal government to sustain the production of critical supplies is the right approach and will help us win the fight against COVID-19.

Already this week, North Carolina has seen its allocation of highly effective monoclonal antibody treatments reduced by 30 percent due to insufficient federal funds. The state has far exceeded its budgeted funds for testing due to the back-to-back Delta and Omicron surges and record-setting community testing efforts. Although current demand for testing and treatment has declined, we need only look back two months to the Omicron surge to know that now is the time for leaders to stockpile against future threats.

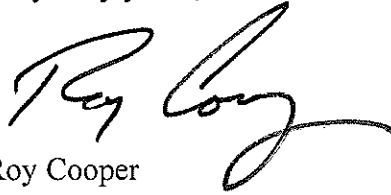
Additionally, failure to act will put at risk the COVID-19 Uninsured Program, which has already paid hundreds of millions of dollars to North Carolina providers as reimbursement for testing, treatment, and vaccinations for the uninsured. The Uninsured Program stopped accepting new claims for testing and treatment this week and will do the same for vaccination claims in two weeks. This program has been essential to our state's COVID-19 response and efforts to reduce disparities in health care. Without this funding, providers must absorb the cost or turn away the uninsured, people who are already high-risk for health crises.

I urge the members of the North Carolina Congressional Delegation to demand that your leadership make this vital COVID-19 funding an immediate priority. I further urge you and the Congressional leadership not to offset this spending by clawing back other important COVID-19 relief funding received by the state. These funds are vital to our ongoing recovery efforts, funding Business Recovery Grants, expanding high-speed internet, and local government support.

Thank you for your consideration and for your leadership in the ongoing fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

With kind regards, I am

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roy Cooper". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Roy" and the last name "Cooper" clearly distinguishable.

Roy Cooper

RAC/II

CC: Secretary Kody Kinsley