



# **SOUTHERNERS** *for* **MEDICAID** **EXPANSION**

## **Southerners for Medicaid Expansion Statement on North Carolina's Passage of Medicaid Expansion**

March 27, 2023

The Southerners for Medicaid Expansion coalition applauds and celebrates the passage of Medicaid expansion in our partner state, North Carolina! Republican legislators in the North Carolina General Assembly led this legislative effort, and Democratic Governor Roy Cooper signed it into law, demonstrating that expanding health coverage is not a partisan issue—it is smart policy.

Medicaid expansion has been proven to improve health outcomes, strengthen rural hospitals, connect more people to mental health and substance use disorder treatment, narrow racial health gaps, improve maternal and infant health, keep people from facing medical debt, and benefit state budgets. North Carolina is set to bring in billions of dollars in federal funds from both the incentive in the American Rescue Plan, as well as the 90% federal match on the expansion population.

This victory in North Carolina is just the beginning. Southerners for Medicaid Expansion united with the goal of closing the Medicaid coverage gap in all remaining states. We will continue working to amplify and mobilize the voices of those who continue to have no access to accessible health care. North Carolina's passage of Medicaid expansion leaves 10 states and nearly two million people without Medicaid expansion. It is time for our states to follow suit and invest in the health and wealth of our people by expanding Medicaid.

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Southerners for Medicaid Expansion is a coalition of hundreds of community leaders, grassroots organizations, and nonprofit policy think tanks across eight states—Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas—banding together to lead health equity movements across Southern states that have not expanded Medicaid. More information available at [southerners4medex.org](http://southerners4medex.org)