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### COVID-19 UPDATE

Representative Nasif Majeed [majeedla@ncleg.net]

Sent: Monday, May 04, 2020 5:28 PM

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## May 4, 2020

# Representative Nasif Majeed District 99 - Mecklenburg County



### Update on COVID-19 Case Count

According to the Department of Health and Human Service's official count as of May 4, North Carolina has 11,848 cases. There are 498 people hospitalized with COVID-19 with 430 confirmed deaths. In Mecklenburg County there have been 1,734 confirmed cases, with 50 deaths.

You can visit the state's COVID-19 dashboard to see how we are doing on the important benchmarks we need to meet to ease stay-at-home restrictions and see demographic data, zip code counts, and other info:

<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/covid-19-case-count-nc>

### First NC-Specific COVID-19 Bills Signed Into Law

Today Governor Cooper signed into law two bills addressing the COVID-19 crisis in North Carolina. The bills passed the General Assembly unanimously with bipartisan support.

What do the bills do? Here are a few highlights:

#### Public Health

- \$65 million for rural hospitals
- \$50 million for purchasing additional PPE
- \$50 million for rural and under-served communities
- \$25 million for testing, tracing, and trends related to COVID-19
- \$25 million for facilities that serve Special Assistance recipients
- \$20 million for additional public health capacity, including increasing nursing capacity, number of community health workers, telehealth services and providing infection control support and training in nursing homes and adult care homes
- \$20 million for enhanced behavioral health and crisis services to respond to COVID-19
- \$19 million for food, safety, shelter and child care

- \$15 million for teaching hospitals
- \$15 million for general hospitals
- \$6 million for food banks
- \$5 million for the Association of Community Health Centers
- \$5 million for free clinics
- \$2 million for foster care support
- \$2 million for the Old North State Medical Society

#### **Small Businesses**

- \$125 million for small business loans through Golden LEAF

#### **Public Schools**

- \$75 million for school nutrition
- \$70 million for summer learning programs
- \$30 million to purchase electronic devices for students
- \$15 million for exceptional children programs
- \$11 million to improve internet connectivity for students
- \$10 million for student health
- \$4 million to purchase electronic devices for school staff
- \$1 million for mobile Wi-Fi hotspots on buses

#### **Higher Education**

- \$85 million for COVID-19 research split among Wake Forest University Health Services, Duke University's Human Vaccine Institute, the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University, and the Campbell University School of Osteopathic Medicine.
- \$44 million for the UNC System to respond to COVID-19 impacts
- \$25 million for the Community College System to respond to COVID-19 impacts
- \$20 million for independent and private colleges to respond to COVID-19 impacts

#### **General**

- \$300 million for the Department of Transportation Coronavirus Relief Fund, if allowed by the federal government
- \$150 million for counties to support immediate COVID-19 needs
- \$150 million for the Local Government Coronavirus Relief Reserve, if allowed by the federal government
- \$70 million for continuity of government operation needs, including covering overtime costs, purchasing PPE, sanitation and hygienic supplies, and critical information technology equipment
- \$20 million to support fee-supported state operations, if allowed by the federal government
- \$15 million for animal depopulation and disposal

- \$9 million for the GREAT program to expand broadband internet access
- \$5 million for Visit NC marketing

## Medicaid Expansion More Important Now Than Ever

This week I co-sponsored [HB 1040 Healthcare for Working North Carolinians](#), a proposal to expand Medicaid in North Carolina and increase access to affordable health care for more than 500,000 North Carolinians.

The COVID-19 crisis shows us how important health care coverage is. When people delay care, it is bad for their personal health but also for our entire community.

Expanded health care coverage means lower costs and premiums for all of us because of lower levels of expensive, unreimbursed Emergency Room care. Medicaid expansion would help create jobs and boost pay checks as we recover from COVID-19.

Medicaid expansion should have happened years ago. If it had, we would be in better shape today to deal with COVID-19. It is time for us to join 37 other states in this common-sense step.

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Representative Nasif Majeed, District 99 | Legislative Building, 16 W. Jones Street, Room 1008,  
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