

**RESOLUTION**

**A RESOLUTION BY THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF DEKALB COUNTY, GEORGIA, REQUESTING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WORK TO SUPPORT LEGISLATION EXPANDING MEDICAID ACCESS TO ELIGIBLE GEORGIANS**

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Authority of DeKalb County, Georgia, requests the General Assembly work to support legislation expanding Medicaid access to eligible Georgians; and

**WHEREAS**, Medicaid is the nation's health insurance program for low-income individuals and families; and

**WHEREAS**, The Affordable Care Act was enacted in 2010 and provides Medicaid access to low-income residents within states, with the federal government paying at least 90% of the cost of the expansion; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2012, the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling on this healthcare reform makes Medicaid expansion optional for states; and

**WHEREAS**, Georgia is currently one of 12 states that has not fully expanded its Medicaid access throughout the state; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2020, state leaders developed the Georgia Pathways program to increase healthcare coverage for uninsured residents, including the creation of two Medicaid waivers, and was subsequently approved by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS); and

**WHEREAS**, one of the waivers expanded Medicaid eligibility to all Georgians living at or below the poverty line, with a requirement of meeting work, school, or volunteer thresholds of twenty (20) hours a week or eighty (80) hours a month; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2021, the Biden administration rescinded approval of this waiver due to work requirement provisions, and is pending further federal review; and

**WHEREAS**, the second waiver, currently in federal review, would cover qualified individuals at up to 137% of the poverty line and involves working with insurance companies; and

**WHEREAS**, research shows that the Georgia Pathways program would leave at least 350,000 adults within the state uninsured because they do not meet the requirements within the waiver(s); and

**WHEREAS**, Medicaid expansion is essential to the state's economy, preserves access to care for every Georgian, and ensures a healthy workforce;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Governing Authority of DeKalb County, Georgia, hereby requests that:

- 1) The General Assembly work to find a Georgia-driven solution to expand health coverage to all eligible recipients, regardless of individual work, school, or volunteer requirements

**ADOPTED** by the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**STEPHEN R. BRADSHAW**

Presiding Officer  
Board of Commissioners  
DeKalb County, Georgia

**APPROVED** by the Chief Executive Officer of DeKalb County, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**MICHAEL L. THURMOND**

Chief Executive Officer  
DeKalb County, Georgia

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**BARBARA SANDERS-NORWOOD, CCC**

Clerk to the Board of Commissioners and  
Chief Executive Officer  
DeKalb County, Georgia

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**VIVIANE H. ERNSTES**

County Attorney  
DeKalb County, Georgia