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NC House Reaffirms Commitment to Medicaid, Responds to Gov. Stein's Emergency Session Call

Raleigh, NC — In response to Governor Josh Stein's call for an emergency session on Medicaid funding, the North Carolina House of Representatives reaffirms its strong commitment to protect patients from the Governor's politically motivated and unnecessary provider rate cuts.

While Gov. Stein's own state health **administration has confirmed** that Medicaid is funded through April 2026, the NCDHHS cut rates on October 1, after the General Assembly appropriated $600 million for the rebase.

These actions are unprecedented and conflict with years of bipartisan work between the General Assembly and the executive branch to fund Medicaid with multiple separate appropriations over the fiscal year, while also providing oversight of the program to ensure proper administration.

Despite the Governor's unwarranted cuts, House lawmakers have already taken decisive, bipartisan action to provide additional funds to the state's Medicaid rebase, passing three clean, stand-alone bills in recent months to ensure our state meets its obligations to patients and providers. The House has also offered to provide written assurances of future funding commitments to prompt the NCDHHS to pause its destructive cuts.

The Stein administration has indicated that any of the following three House-approved proposals would lead them to drop their cuts.

- **Senate Bill 403 (September)**: Provides $192 million, bringing this year's total Medicaid rebase investment to $792 million.
- **House Bill 491 (October)**: Allocates another $190 million from the Medicaid contingency fund.
- **Healthcare Investment Act (October)**: A clean version of the Senate's September plan, providing $192 million and fully matching Fiscal Research's funding estimates.

Since August, House leaders have repeatedly urged Gov. Stein and the NCDHHS to halt their harmful rate cuts and work with the General Assembly to maintain program stability.

Looking ahead, the House remains willing to work collaboratively with the administration to monitor Medicaid spending throughout the fiscal year and, if necessary, appropriate additional funds to close any verified shortfall.

House Speaker Destin Hall said, **"The House has done its job to fund Medicaid with clean bills and is prepared to do more if needed. We need to resolve this matter quickly to protect patients, support providers, and ensure the long-term stability of North Carolina's Medicaid program.**

Until recently, the General Assembly has worked with the executive branch to provide funding to Medicaid, while also monitoring the program's integrity. The administration should have continued that practice."

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