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Affordable Healthcare Coalition of NC

| 2021 AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE SCORECARD |



The Affordable Healthcare Coalition of North Carolina is a non-profit, non-partisan grassroots organization committed to supporting policies and efforts that will lower healthcare costs for families and businesses in North Carolina.

We are a statewide coalition made up of businesses, organizations and individuals who are concerned about the rising cost of healthcare and prescription drugs.

We keep our members informed on what is happening in North Carolina that impacts their healthcare costs.

We advocate for policies that will make quality healthcare more affordable for individuals, families, and businesses in North Carolina.

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THE 2021 AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE SCORECARD

The Affordable Healthcare Coalition's Legislative Scorecard grades each member of the North Carolina General Assembly on his or her commitment to lowering healthcare costs for businesses, workers, and their families.

The Affordable Healthcare Scorecard scores bills that impact prescription drug and healthcare prices, protect consumers from excess and surprise costs, increase quality health insurance options, and expand access to more affordable care.

Sixteen bills were scored during the legislative session. 10 bills were supported. Six were opposed.

Of the bills scored, three supported bills are now law. These include legislation expanding access to more affordable EPO insurance plans, Certificate of Need reform and prescription drug transparency.

No opposed bills became law.

How Grades Are Determined

- Final grades were based on many factors, including votes on the floor and in committee, bill sponsorships and co-sponsorships, and a member's work and effort throughout the legislative session to support or oppose efforts to lower healthcare costs.
- Members were notified that a bill was being scored prior to any vote.
- Lawmaker grades range from A+ to F.
- Legislators earning A+ grades are crowned Healthcare Affordability Champions.

BY THE NUMBERS

6 Affordable Healthcare Champions: legislators who earned an **A+ rating**

16 Pieces of legislation scored (*for and against*)

3 Bills we supported that were signed into law

0 Bills we opposed that were signed into law

SCORED LEGISLATION



NALOXONE Rx MANDATE (H.B. 93) *OPPOSE*

H.B. 93 sought to create a costly new prescription drug mandate that would have inflated the profits of drug manufacturers, added millions worth of unnecessary expenses to the healthcare system, and put politicians between doctors and their patients.

SPONSORS: [Rep. Sasser](#); [Rep. Moffitt](#); [Rep. Adcock](#)



ALLOW EMPLOYERS TO OFFER EPO BENEFIT PLANS (S.B. 228, H.B. 373) *SUPPORT, SIGNED INTO LAW*

S.B. 228 and H.B. 373 allow Exclusive Provider Organization (EPO) insurance plans to be sold to small businesses and individuals. Prior to this legislation passing, North Carolina regulations only allowed EPOs for large businesses who could afford to pay their own insurance claims. Now these same affordable plans are also available to our state's small businesses, workers, and their families.

S.B. 228 SPONSORS: [Sen. Edwards](#); [Sen. Krawiec](#); [Sen. Burgin](#)

H.B. 373 SPONSORS: [Rep. Bumgardner](#); [Rep. K. Hall](#); [Rep. Saine](#)



TELEHEALTH REIMBURSEMENT MANDATE (H.B. 149) *OPPOSE*

H.B. 149 sought to create a costly and dangerous government mandate that would require families and businesses, through their insurance premiums, to pay for any healthcare service provided virtually if it's covered in-person. The bill would have dramatically increased costs by forcing consumers to pay big hospital systems for things such as screening calls, emails, texts, and "remote monitoring."

SPONSORS: [Rep. Lambeth](#); [Rep. White](#); [Rep. Potts](#); [Rep. K. Baker](#)



Rx PRICING TRANSPARENCY (S.B. 257) *SUPPORT, SIGNED INTO LAW*

S.B. 257 increases prescription drug pricing transparency and helps people save at the pharmacy. The bill allows pharmacists to share cost information about prescription drugs with patients and to sell patients a lower cost drug if one is available. It also requires Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) to be licensed by the State of North Carolina, helping ensure they operate in the best interest of consumers.

SPONSORS: [Sen. Perry](#); [Sen. Britt](#); [Sen. Johnson](#)



SAVE ACT (H.B. 277, S.B. 249) *SUPPORT*

The SAVE Act sought to increase access and lower costs. It would remove outdated government regulations to allow high-skilled nurses to practice at the full level of their education and training.

H.B. 277 SPONSORS: [Rep. White](#); [Rep. Adcock](#); [Rep. Cunningham](#); [Rep. Wheatley](#)

S.B. 249 SPONSORS: [Sen. Hise](#); [Sen. Krawiec](#); [Sen. Burgin](#)



MEDICAL BILLING TRANSPARENCY ACT (S.B. 505) *SUPPORT*

S.B. 505 sought to protect consumers from surprise medical bills by ensuring patients are notified if the provider caring for them is out-of-network. This transparency would give patients the opportunity to find in-network alternatives they can afford if a provider on their care team is out-of-network.

SPONSORS: [Sen. Krawiec](#); [Sen. Burgin](#); [Sen. Perry](#)



GREATER TRANSPARENCY IN HEALTHCARE BILLING (S.B. 415) *SUPPORT*

S.B. 415 sought to protect patients from surprise medical bills. It would set a fair and reasonable benchmark payment for out-of-network care received at an in-network facility or an emergency room.

SPONSORS: [Sen. Hise](#); [Sen. Krawiec](#); [Sen. Burgin](#)

SCORED LEGISLATION CONTINUED...



PRESCRIPTION DRUG TRANSPARENCY ACT (S.B. 411) *SUPPORT*

S.B. 411 sought to hold drug manufacturers accountable by making them notify consumers and justify any major price hikes.

SPONSORS: [Sen. Crawford](#); [Sen. Mohammed](#); [Sen. Lowe](#)



INCREASE HEALTHCARE COMPETITION (S.B. 462) *SUPPORT, SIGNED INTO LAW*

S.B. 462 reformed North Carolina's outdated Certificate of Need (CON) laws to allow for more competition in the health-care industry. Increasing competition lowers cost and improves access for consumers.

SPONSORS: [Sen. Krawiec](#); [Sen. Perry](#); [Sen. Burgin](#)



ORAL CHEMO DRUG MANDATE (HB524) OPPOSE

H.B. 524 would have mandated consumers pay for oral chemotherapy drugs through higher insurance premiums. Oral chemotherapy drugs are some of the most expensive on the market and many are priced significantly higher than IV chemo drugs. The mandate would cause health insurance premiums to soar.

SPONSORS: [Rep. Cunningham](#); [Rep. Adcock](#); [Rep. Sasser](#)



INCREASED ACCESS TO LIFE-SAVING MEDICATION (S.B. 575) SUPPORT

S.B. 575 sought to expand access to affordable care by allowing trained, qualified pharmacists to prescribe and administer certain medications, some life-saving (EpiPens for allergic reactions, short-acting inhalers for asthma, and prenatal vitamins are a few examples). It would expand access to care and cut costs.

SPONSORS: [Sen. Burgin](#); [Sen. Krawiec](#); [Sen. Perry](#)



PAY PHARMACIST MORE ACT (H.B. 896) OPPOSE

H.B. 896 sought to mandate pharmacists be reimbursed at the same rate as physicians for performing healthcare services. One of the benefits of expanding a pharmacist's scope of care is that it can make care more affordable. But making consumers pay pharmacists the same as a physician would wipe out those costs savings.

SPONSORS: [Rep. Setzer](#)



COST INCREASING MANDATE (H.B. 703) OPPOSE

H.B. 703 sought to mandate that individuals and businesses, through their insurance premiums, pay for advanced diagnostic imaging tests such as MRIs and breast ultrasounds at the same level as a preventive screening mammography. The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommends conventional mammography for screening. Mandating zero cost share for diagnostic tests would lead to significant premium increases and encourage overuse and misuse of more expensive tests, such as MRIs.

SPONSORS: [Rep. Belk](#); [Rep. White](#); [Rep. Lambeth](#); [Rep. Carney](#)



HIGHER RX COSTS ACT (HOUSE VERSION OF S.B. 257) OPPOSE

The House's amendment to S.B. 257 would have caused consumer drug prices to rise, while providing a windfall for pharmaceutical companies and major hospital systems. We scored the vote on the House amendment as a vote on a separate piece of legislation we opposed because the amendment changed the Senate bill entirely.

AMENDMENT AUTHOR: [Rep. Sasser](#)

CHAMPIONS

Affordable Healthcare Champion awards go to lawmakers who earned an A+ on the legislative scorecard.



SEN. PHIL BERGER

A+



SEN. JIM BURGIN

A+



SEN. KEVIN CORBIN

A+



SEN. CHUCK EDWARDS

A+



SEN. RALPH HISE

A+



SEN. JOYCE KRAWIEC

A+



These six Affordable Healthcare Champions went to bat time and again to protect consumers and lower healthcare costs. They stood strong against legislation that would have increased insurance, hospital, and drug costs. And they championed important and overdue legislation into law. Consumer healthcare costs are lower, and access to care is greater, because of their work."

AUSTIN VEVURKA
Executive Director
Affordable Healthcare Coalition

2021 Affordable Healthcare Scorecard Grades

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES *sorted by name*

NAME	PARTY	GRADE	NAME	PARTY	GRADE	NAME	PARTY	GRADE
Jay Adams	R	D	Dudley Greene	R	C	Ray Pickett	R	C
Gale Adcock	D	C	Destin Hall	R	B	Garland E. Pierce	D	C
John Ager	D	D	Kyle Hall	R	B	Larry Pittman	R	C
Kelly Alexander	D	C	Bobby Hanig	R	D	Mark Pless	R	C
Vernetta Alston	D	C	Jon Hardister	R	C	Larry Potts	R	D
Dean Arp	R	C	Wesley Harris	D	D	Amos Quick	D	D
John Autry	D	C	Pricey Harrison	D	D	Robert Reives	D	C
Amber Baker	D	C	Kelly Hastings	R	D	Billy Richardson	D	C
Kristin Baker	R	F	Zack Hawkins	D	D	Dennis Riddell	R	C
Cynthia Ball	D	F	Julia Howard	R	C	James Roberson	D	D
Mary Belk	D	F	Chris Humphrey	R	C	David Rogers	R	C
John Bell	R	B	Rachel Hunt	D	C	Jason Saine	R	B
Hugh Blackwell	R	C	Howard Hunter	D	C	Wayne Sasser	R	F
Jamie Boles	R	C	Pat Hurley	R	D	John Sauls	R	C
John Bradford	R	D	Ricky Hurtado	D	C	Mitchell Setzer	R	C
William Brisson	R	C	Frank Iler	R	C	Phil Shepard	R	C
Cecil Brockman	D	D	Verla Insko	D	D	Carson Smith	R	C
Mark Brody	R	C	Joe John	D	D	Kandie Smith	D	D
Terry Brown	D	D	Jake Johnson	R	C	Raymond Smith	D	C
Deb Butler	D	C	Abe Jones	D	C	Sarah Stevens	R	C
Becky Carney	D	D	Brenden Jones	R	B	Larry Strickland	R	D
Mike Clampitt	R	C	Keith Kidwell	R	D	John Szoka	R	A
Ashton Wheeler Clemmons	D	C	Donny Lambeth	R	F	Evelyn Terry	D	C
George Cleveland	R	C	Brandon Lofton	D	C	John Torbett	R	C
Linda Cooper-Suggs	D	C	Carolyn Logan	D	D	Brian Turner	D	C
Carla Cunningham	D	D	Marvin Lucas	D	D	Steve Tyson	R	C
Allison Dahle	D	D	Nasif Majeed	D	C	Julie von Haefen	D	C
Ted Davis	R	C	Grier Martin	D	D	Harry Warren	R	C
Jimmy Dixon	R	D	Pat McElraft	R	C	Sam Watford	R	C
Jeffrey Elmore	R	C	Jeffrey McNeely	R	C	Diane Wheatley	R	D
Terence Everitt	D	D	Allen McNeill	R	C	Donna McDowell White	R	C
John Faircloth	R	C	Graig Meyer	D	C	Shelly Willingham	D	D
Brian Farkas	D	D	Charlie Miller	R	C	David Willis	R	C
Susan Fisher	D	F	Grey Mills	R	C	Matthew Winslow	R	D
James Gailliard	D	D	Tim Moffitt	R	C	Michael Wray	D	D
Terry Garrison	D	D	Tim Moore	R	B	Larry Yarborough	R	D
Rosa Gill	D	D	Marcia Morey	D	D	Lee Zachary	R	C
Karl Gillespie	R	C	Ben Moss	R	D	Jeff Zenger	R	C
Ed Goodwin	R	D	Erin Paré	R	C			
Charles Graham	D	D	Howard Penny	R	C			

2021 Affordable Healthcare Scorecard Grades

SENATE *sorted by name*

NAME	PARTY	GRADE	NAME	PARTY	GRADE
Ted Alexander	R	A	Brent Jackson	R	A
Deanna Ballard	R	A	Jeff Jackson	D	A
Lisa Barnes	R	A	Steve Jarvis	R	A
Sydney Batch	D	A	Todd Johnson	R	A
Ernestine Bazemore	D	A	Joyce Krawiec	R	A+
Phil Berger	R	A+	Michael Lazzara	R	A
Dan Blue	D	A	Michael Lee	R	A
Danny Britt	R	A	Paul Lowe	D	A
Jim Burgin	R	A+	Natasha Marcus	D	A
Jay Chaudhuri	D	A	Julie Mayfield	D	A
Ben Clark	D	B	Tom McInnis	R	A
Kevin Corbin	R	A+	Mujtaba Mohammed	D	A
Dave Craven	R	A	Natalie Murdock	D	A
Sarah Crawford	D	A	Paul Newton	R	A
Warren Daniel	R	A	Wiley Nickel	D	A
Don Davis	D	A	Jim Perry	R	A
Kirk deViere	D	A	Dean Proctor	R	A
Chuck Edwards	R	A+	Bill Rabon	R	A
Toby Fitch	D	A	Gladys Robinson	D	A
Carl Ford	R	A	DeAndrea Salvador	D	A
Valerie Foushee	D	A	Norm Sanderson	R	A
Amy Galey	R	A	Vickie Sawyer	R	A
Michael Garrett	D	A	Bob Steinburg	R	A
Kathy Harrington	R	A	Joyce Waddell	D	A
Ralph Hise	R	A+	Mike Woodard	D	A

2021 Affordable Healthcare Scorecard Grades

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES *sorted by grade*

NAME	PARTY	GRADE	NAME	PARTY	GRADE	NAME	PARTY	GRADE
John Szoka	R	A	Allen McNeill	R	C	Jimmy Dixon	R	D
John Bell	R	B	Graig Meyer	D	C	Terence Everitt	D	D
Destin Hall	R	B	Charlie Miller	R	C	Brian Farkas	D	D
Kyle Hall	R	B	Grey Mills	R	C	James Gailliard	D	D
Brenden Jones	R	B	Tim Moffitt	R	C	Terry Garrison	D	D
Tim Moore	R	B	Erin Paré	R	C	Rosa Gill	D	D
Jason Saine	R	B	Howard Penny	R	C	Ed Goodwin	R	D
Gale Adcock	D	C	Ray Pickett	R	C	Charles Graham	D	D
Kelly Alexander	D	C	Garland E. Pierce	D	C	Bobby Hanig	R	D
Vernetta Alston	D	C	Larry Pittman	R	C	Wesley Harris	D	D
Dean Arp	R	C	Mark Pless	R	C	Pricey Harrison	D	D
John Autry	D	C	Robert Reives	D	C	Kelly Hastings	R	D
Amber Baker	D	C	Billy Richardson	D	C	Zack Hawkins	D	D
Hugh Blackwell	R	C	Dennis Riddell	R	C	Pat Hurley	R	D
Jamie Boles	R	C	David Rogers	R	C	Joe John	D	D
William Brisson	R	C	John Sauls	R	C	Keith Kidwell	R	D
Mark Brody	R	C	Mitchell Setzer	R	C	Carolyn Logan	D	D
Deb Butler	D	C	Phil Shepard	R	C	Marvin Lucas	D	D
Mike Clampitt	R	C	Carson Smith	R	C	Grier Martin	D	D
Ashton Wheeler Clemmons	D	C	Raymond Smith	D	C	Marcia Morey	D	D
George Cleveland	R	C	Sarah Stevens	R	C	Ben Moss	R	D
Linda Cooper-Suggs	D	C	Evelyn Terry	D	C	Larry Potts	R	D
Ted Davis	R	C	John Torbett	R	C	Amos Quick	D	D
Jeffrey Elmore	R	C	Brian Turner	D	C	James Roberson	D	D
John Faircloth	R	C	Steve Tyson	R	C	Kandie Smith	D	D
Karl Gillespie	R	C	Julie von Haefen	D	C	Larry Strickland	R	D
Dudley Greene	R	C	Harry Warren	R	C	Diane Wheatley	R	D
Jon Hardister	R	C	Sam Watford	R	C	Shelly Willingham	D	D
Julia Howard	R	C	Donna McDowell White	R	C	Matthew Winslow	R	D
Chris Humphrey	R	C	David Willis	R	C	Michael Wray	D	D
Rachel Hunt	D	C	Jeff Zenger	R	C	Larry Yarborough	R	D
Howard Hunter	D	C	Lee Zachary	R	C	Verla Insko	D	D
Ricky Hurtado	D	C	Jay Adams	R	D	Kristin Baker	R	F
Frank Iler	R	C	John Ager	D	D	Cynthia Ball	D	F
Jake Johnson	R	C	John Bradford	R	D	Mary Belk	D	F
Abe Jones	D	C	Cecil Brockman	D	D	Susan Fisher	D	F
Brandon Lofton	D	C	Terry Brown	D	D	Donny Lambeth	R	F
Nasif Majeed	D	C	Becky Carney	D	D	Wayne Sasser	R	F
Pat McElraft	R	C	Carla Cunningham	D	D			
Jeffrey McNeely	R	C	Allison Dahle	D	D			

2021 Affordable Healthcare Scorecard Grades

SENATE *sorted by grade*

NAME	PARTY	GRADE	NAME	PARTY	GRADE
Jim Burgin	R	A+	Brent Jackson	R	A
Chuck Edwards	R	A+	Jeff Jackson	D	A
Joyce Krawiec	R	A+	Steve Jarvis	R	A
Phil Berger	R	A+	Todd Johnson	R	A
Kevin Corbin	R	A+	Michael Lazzara	R	A
Ralph Hise	R	A+	Michael Lee	R	A
Ted Alexander	R	A	Paul Lowe	D	A
Deanna Ballard	R	A	Natasha Marcus	D	A
Lisa Barnes	R	A	Julie Mayfield	D	A
Sydney Batch	D	A	Tom McInnis	R	A
Ernestine Bazemore	D	A	Mujtaba Mohammed	D	A
Dan Blue	D	A	Natalie Murdock	D	A
Danny Britt	R	A	Paul Newton	R	A
Jay Chaudhuri	D	A	Wiley Nickel	D	A
Dave Craven	R	A	Jim Perry	R	A
Sarah Crawford	D	A	Dean Proctor	R	A
Warren Daniel	R	A	Bill Rabon	R	A
Don Davis	D	A	Gladys Robinson	D	A
Kirk deViere	D	A	DeAndrea Salvador	D	A
Toby Fitch	D	A	Norm Sanderson	R	A
Carl Ford	R	A	Vickie Sawyer	R	A
Valerie Foushee	D	A	Bob Steinburg	R	A
Amy Galey	R	A	Joyce Waddell	D	A
Michael Garrett	D	A	Mike Woodard	D	A
Kathy Harrington	R	A	Ben Clark	D	B

