

Resolution

A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE IMMEDIATE LIFTING OF THE STOP WORK ORDER ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND THE RE-OPENING OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID)

WHEREAS, the Executive Order on “Reevaluating and Realigning United States Foreign Aid” is in violation of the Antideficiency Act and the Impoundment Control Act because US foreign assistance funding is Congressionally appropriated on behalf of American taxpayers, including North Carolinians; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is a leader in improving the health and well-being of communities worldwide and is the fourth largest recipient of USAID funding in the nation, having infused North Carolina’s economy with close to \$1 billion in 2024; and

WHEREAS, foreign assistance programs create and sustain jobs in North Carolina’s research, manufacturing, agriculture, health care, education and logistics sectors; and

WHEREAS, locally and regionally, the Triangle area has a significant concentration of international development organizations, as evidenced by over 1,750 employees across 60 international development organizations in our metro area including non-profits, universities, and small businesses; and

WHEREAS, the stop work order and shutdown of USAID has had an immediate and critical economic impact on Carrboro, our county, Triangle Region and the State of North Carolina, as foreign assistance programs and funding is cut from North Carolina Universities, nonprofit and partner organizations and has had a crucial and devastating impact on small USAID funded Carrboro nonprofits and their employees; and

WHEREAS, Local and regional institutions are seriously impacted by these funding cuts. Key among the institutions and organizations that receive funding for USAID for Agricultural Research are: North Carolina State University, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, North Carolina A & T University, and Duke University; Nonprofits: FHI 360, RTI International, IntraHealth International, Eleanor Crook Foundation (Global Malnutrition); and twenty-seven (27) Large-Scale North Carolina farmers who fulfill direct orders for humanitarian food assistance and play a vital role in implementing US foreign assistance programs that strengthen global health security, economic development, humanitarian aid and education; and

WHEREAS, March 8, 2022, the Town of Carrboro adopted a resolution in solidarity with Ukraine, who is a major recipient of USAID funding and programs; and

WHEREAS, the shuttering of USAID has:

- Forced hundreds of furloughs and layoffs in the entire Triangle-area impacting funded organizations and negatively impacting partner organizations;
- Prevented millions in payments owed to NC-based contractors and impacting their partners;
- Inhibits global innovation harnessed from NC-based firms in biotechnology, agriculture, health care, education, health security, cybersecurity, etc.

WHEREAS, the current administration's illegal and immoral blanket stop work and shutdown order on foreign assistance funding and dismantling of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has:

- Ceased the life-saving work of thousands of dedicated development professionals here and around the globe, causing avoidable death and harm whose impacts will be felt for many years to come;
- Ended University-based public health collaborations that prevent infectious disease such as Ebola from spreading to the US;
- Jeopardized national security, economic stability and government efficiency
- Will lead our international partners to seek other funding partners – likely U.S. competitors and adversaries – to fill this hole and displace the United States' influence, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Carrboro:

1. Call on the US Treasury to immediately pay outstanding invoices to NC organizations for services already rendered under foreign assistance contracts; and
2. Urge the NC Attorney General to amend pending litigation to:
 - Include the Department of State and USAID as defendants
 - Recognize impacts on public institutions like universities
 - Address Secretary Rubio's implementation of Executive Order 13888; and
3. Stand in solidarity with affected workers and organizations, demanding:
 - Immediate lifting of the stop work order
 - Congressional review of foreign assistance's local economic benefits
 - Protection for over 1,750 Triangle-area jobs tied to global development contracts; and
4. Urge all community members to make their voices heard on this critical issue by calling their respective Congress Members; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to:

- NC's Attorney General, Jeff Jackson
- NC's Congressional Delegation
- US Secretary of State, Marco Rubio
- United States Office of Management and Budget Director, Russell Vought

This 4th day of March 2025.