

Protect New Yorkers who rely on Medicaid.

Seven million New Yorkers depend on Medicaid. Federal cuts from H.R.1 threaten their coverage, their care, and their independence. We can mitigate the potential harms in this year's budget.

THE CURRENT SITUATION

H.R.1, enacted in July 2025, will cost New York billions in Medicaid funding and put hundreds of thousands of people at risk of losing coverage.



"I am a young, single mother to a 7-year-old with developmental disabilities, on my own with limited supports, working to the greatest of my capabilities and opportunities and with extremely low income. Medicaid allows me to feel safety in regard to my son's health. Without Medicaid, I would not have an effective way to provide him with health insurance and therefore, any and all treatments he needs or may need."

– Selena, New York City

WHAT POLICYMAKERS MUST DO

Implement H.R.1 to keep people covered

- Automate new processes (renewals, work reporting) to minimize coverage losses – Department of Health is already working hard at making this happen.
- Create an affordable option for ~450,000 who will lose Essential Plan coverage
- Establish state-only coverage for those who lose Medicaid due to H.R.1 (like not meeting work reporting requirements due to paperwork)
- Increase funding for consumer assistance to help individuals navigate changes

Invest in equitable and accessible community services

- Ensure access to home- and community-based services
- Fund safety-net hospitals equitably — urban and rural
- Increase Medicaid reimbursement for primary care

Fix the Governor's budget proposals

- Reallocate MCO tax revenue to emphasize access to primary care and community-based services
- Reject elimination of the EQUAL program for adult home residents

- Maintain continuous eligibility for children birth-age 6 through current waiver period
- Fund Community Health Advocates at \$7 million (+\$1.5M to Governor's proposal)

LEGISLATION TO PASS

Incorporate these bills into the 2026–27 budget:

Primary & Preventive Care

- Primary Care Investment Act (A.1915-A, Paulin/S.1634, Rivera)

Home Care & Long-Term Care

- Repeal barrier to home care based on needing assistance with three activities of daily living (ADL) (A.1198, Paulin/S.358, Rivera)
- Repeal 30-month look-back for community long-term care (A.1907, Paulin/S.4786, Skoufis)
- Home Care Savings & Reinvestment Act (A.2018-A, Paulin/S.2332-A, Rivera)
- Fair Pay for Home Care (A.1991, Paulin/S.8955, Cleare)

Behavioral Health

- Carve behavioral health services out of Medicaid Managed Care (A.8055-A, Simon/S.8309-A, Brouk)

Access to Specific Benefits

- Codify Medicaid dental coverage for implants, replacement prosthetics, crowns, and root canals (A.1931, Paulin/S.3566, Cleare)
- Codify coverage for gender-affirming care (A.6596-A, Rosenthal/S.9275, Rivera)

Transparency & Accountability

- Managed Long Term Care data transparency (A.700, Gonzalez-Rojas/S.707-A, May)
- Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program (CDPAP) data transparency (A.10537, Gonzalez-Rojas/S.9142, Comrie)

HOW TO PAY FOR IT

New York's fiscal picture is not as dire as feared.

Revenue options include:

- Use state surplus and rainy-day funds
- Reallocate MCO tax revenue
- Savings from reforming managed care administration
- Progressive tax reform — ask the wealthiest to contribute more

Pass a budget that goes beyond increasing funding for hospitals and nursing homes to protect Medicaid, increases access to primary and preventive services, and keeps New Yorkers living independently.