

Inter-County Association of Western New York

Representing the Counties of Allegany, Cattaraugus, Cayuga, Chautauqua, Chemung, Erie, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tompkins, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-12-IC

RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO RELEASE ENHANCED FEDERAL MEDICAID MATCHING FUNDS TO COUNTIES AND NEW YORK CITY – SOCIAL SERVICES

Offered by: the Inter-County Association of Western New York

WHEREAS, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress has enacted extraordinary measures to help states and localities with increased costs and lost revenue, and

WHEREAS, a key action enacted by the federal government was a 6.2 percent increase in the federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP), and

WHEREAS, Congress has used this mechanism to provide fiscal relief to states and their local government Medicaid funding partners to reduce the financial burden they often experience in an economic downturn, and

WHEREAS, we understand the State of New York has already drawn down about \$2.5 billion for the period January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020, and

WHEREAS, under federal law a portion of these funds are required to be passed through to counties and New York City, and

WHEREAS, we estimate the local share is about 20 percent, and

WHEREAS, counties and New York City are struggling with higher costs associated with responding to COVID-19 and experiencing extensive revenue declines due to the shutdown of large swaths of the economy, and

WHEREAS, in addition to mounting losses in local revenues, counties are also expecting significant cuts in state aid, and

WHEREAS, many counties have enacted plans to reduce non-mandated expenses to the degree they can without sacrificing public health and safety, and

WHEREAS, these expense reductions also require a review of the workforce, including layoffs, and

WHEREAS, we project that each quarter of enhanced FMAP funding is worth hundreds of millions of dollars for counties and New York City, and

WHEREAS, the State has been holding three years of similar enhanced FMAP payments owed to counties and New York City under the Affordable Care Act that are worth hundreds of millions of dollars, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED:

1. That the Schuyler County Legislature is requesting that the State immediately release the first quarter of enhanced Medicaid federal matching funds for the pandemic response to Schuyler County to provide some partial fiscal relief to the current conditions, and
2. That the State provide a timeline to all counties on the release of the enhanced federal Medicaid matching funds related to the Affordable Care Act that have been withheld for years and the likely mechanism on how these funds will be delivered to counties and New York City, and
3. That we understand the State is experiencing severe fiscal stress, as well, and we want to work cooperatively with the State to develop a plan on the release of the withheld federal enhanced Medicaid funds due to counties under the Affordable Care Act and future pandemic FMAP increased funding, and
4. That the Inter-County Association of Western New York Secretary is directed to send a certified copy of this resolution to state representatives and all others deemed necessary and appropriate.

This is to Certify that I, the undersigned, Secretary of the Inter-County Association of Western New York, have compared the foregoing copy of resolution with the original resolution now on file in this office and which was duly adopted by the Association at a session held on the 19th day of June 2020 and that the same is a true copy of said original and of the whole thereof.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the official seal of the Inter-County Association of Western New York dated June 19, 2020.

Jodi Adams

Jodi Adams, Secretary
Inter-County Association of Western New York



Sponsored by: Schuyler County, Moved by: Rondinaro (*Schuyler*), Seconded by: Maha (*Genesee*)