

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. 2022-12-IC

RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE GOVERNOR TO COMPLETE ENHANCED FEDERAL MEDICAID ASSISTANCE PERCENTAGE RECONCILIATIONS THAT ARE FIVE YEARS OVERDUE AND IMMEDIATELY RELEASE THE FEDERAL FUNDS OWED

Motioned by: Brooke Harris (*Allegany*)

Seconded by: Tamara Hicks (*Ontario*)

WHEREAS, the funding to support the Medicaid program is provided by a combination of federal, state, and local resources, and

WHEREAS, New York State requires the counties and New York City to contribute \$6.937 billion annually to pay for the federal and state defined and controlled program, and

WHEREAS, the locally required share of Medicaid funding paid in New York State is the highest of any state in the country, and

WHEREAS, this large local funding share for Medicaid and other state programs is a major contributor to New York State's high local tax burden compared to other states in the country, and

WHEREAS, the federal government has provided an enhanced Medicaid matching share (eFMAP), which has saved New York State billions of dollars, and

WHEREAS, New York State is required under federal law to share these savings with its counties and New York City based on the proportionate share the localities pay of the nonfederal match, and

WHEREAS, New York State has utilized a methodology that provides 80 percent of these estimated federal savings to the counties in the year the costs accrue, and

WHEREAS, the balance of savings owed to the counties should be reconciled annually to ensure the withheld savings are transferred to county budgets and local taxpayers, as well as to meet the intent of federal law, and

WHEREAS, New York State last completed a reconciliation for State fiscal year 2015 – 2016, and

WHEREAS, New York State's reconciliations are five years behind the normal schedule, with more than approximately \$1.7 billion in federal funds being withheld from its counties and New York City, and over \$1.4 million owed to Allegany County, and

WHEREAS, by New York State not providing these federal funds to the counties, it requires Allegany County to reserve funds locally to make up for the loss, meaning local taxes have been kept higher than they need to be over multiple years, or local services had to be scaled back or eliminated, and

WHEREAS, in the years leading up to the last completed eFMAP reconciliation, Allegany County was provided an estimate of their coming year Medicaid costs by September of each year, which was in time to incorporate the savings in their budgets, and this practice ceased when regular annual eFMAP reconciliations ended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Inter-County Association of Western New York urges the Governor to complete these unfinished eFMAP reconciliations as soon as possible, provide a full accounting of the federal funds owed, and take immediate steps to release the funds. Be it further

RESOLVED, that New York State should also renew its practice of providing timely notice to Western New York Counties of the coming year Medicaid costs to appropriately budget those savings for local taxpayers and preserve highly desired quality of life services provided locally. Be it further

RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Inter-County Association of Western New York shall forward copies of this resolution to New York State Governor Kathy Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Senate Minority Leader Rob Ortt, Assembly Majority Leader Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes, Assembly Minority Leader William Barclay, Senator George M. Borrello, Assemblyman Joseph Giglio, Senator Edward Rath, Assemblyman Stephen Hawley, New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC).

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 August 2022 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 August 19, 2022.



Lisa K. Casey, Secretary
Inter-County Association of Western New York

Sponsored by: Allegany County, Moved by: Brooke Harris (*Allegany*) and Seconded by: Tamara Hicks (*Ontario*).

