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New York Health Act Tracker



[S.5474/A.6058](#)

The Assembly Health Committee last week voted to advance the New York Health Act to the Codes Committee. The bill must go through the Codes, Ways & Means and Rules Committees before it can be brought to the Floor for a vote of the full Assembly.

In the Senate, Majority Leader Andrea Stewart Cousins said her conference

has not talked about Single Payer but that they are "committed to ensuring New Yorkers have access to quality health care and are looking at all kinds of ways to make sure that happens."

The Realities coalition's concerns were noted in several news accounts about the bill.

APRIL							MAY							JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3							1							
							2	3	4	5	6	7	8			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30		30	31						27	28	29	30			

There are seven scheduled session weeks remaining. We plan to highlight a specific issue each week.

This week, we're focusing on government-run health care and the fact that the majority of New Yorkers do not want Albany politicians taking over the state's entire health care system. Polling from [Gallup](#) also revealed that amid the pandemic, satisfaction about health care costs is at an all time high.

ERISA Whitepaper & Webinar

A whitepaper released on Wednesday explains the impact the New York Health Act would have on self-funded employer or union-sponsored health benefit plans. The whitepaper and letter were both sent to state Legislators. Both were prepared by ERIC, The ERISA Industry Committee, and the Business Council of NYS.

Passed in 1974, ERISA was intended to ensure that a company's employees could have access to the same set of benefits regardless of where they lived, worked, or received medical care.

Single Payer would force self-insured employers to abide by a mix of health care rules and an arbitrary patchwork of inconsistent tracking and reporting requirements. The New York Health Act's provisions relating to tax credits for employers with cross-border employees is one example that would add a layer of administrative complexity for multi-state employers, which is directly counter to the original purpose of ERISA and would give rise to a potentially successful preemption challenge.

- [ERISA Whitepaper](#)
- [Letter to Lawmakers](#)

Please share with your members and on social media!

Event Coming Up!

We also sent out the invitation for a webinar next month, which will provide for more in-depth information and discussion on the topic. The webinar is scheduled for Wednesday, May 5 at Noon. Register [here](#).

NYHA Impact on Commuters

The Empire Center has identified another part of the New York Health Act that would complicate things for people who work in the state but are residents of other states.

A change made to the bill last May provides that the state-run "New York Health Plan" would cover everyone "employed or self-employed full-time in the state" in addition to the 20 million New York residents.

Bill Hammond of the Empire Center notes that Single Payer would just create a new incentive for higher-income commuters and their employers to relocate out of New York.

Read more below.



New York's 'Single Payer' Health Plan Would Disrupt...

A little-noticed change to the New York Health Act has big implications for the bridge-and-tunnel crowd. Under the latest version of the single-payer bill -which has broad support from Democrats in the Legislature-hundreds of thousands of...

[Read more](#)

www.empirecenter.org

Single Payer in the News

A mix of state and national news about single payer, Medicare for All, public option and other health care related stories.

[Single payer health care measure advances](#)

State of Politics

[Assembly Health Committee renews focus on single payer](#)

Politico

[Stewart-Cousins: Senate Dems looking at 'safe staffing' bill, haven't conferenced single-payer bill](#)

Politico

[State Senate leader previews remainder of legislative session](#)

WBFO

[Progressive state Dems unveil "Compassionate" agenda](#)

City & State

New Coalition Members

We welcome two new members to the coalition this week:

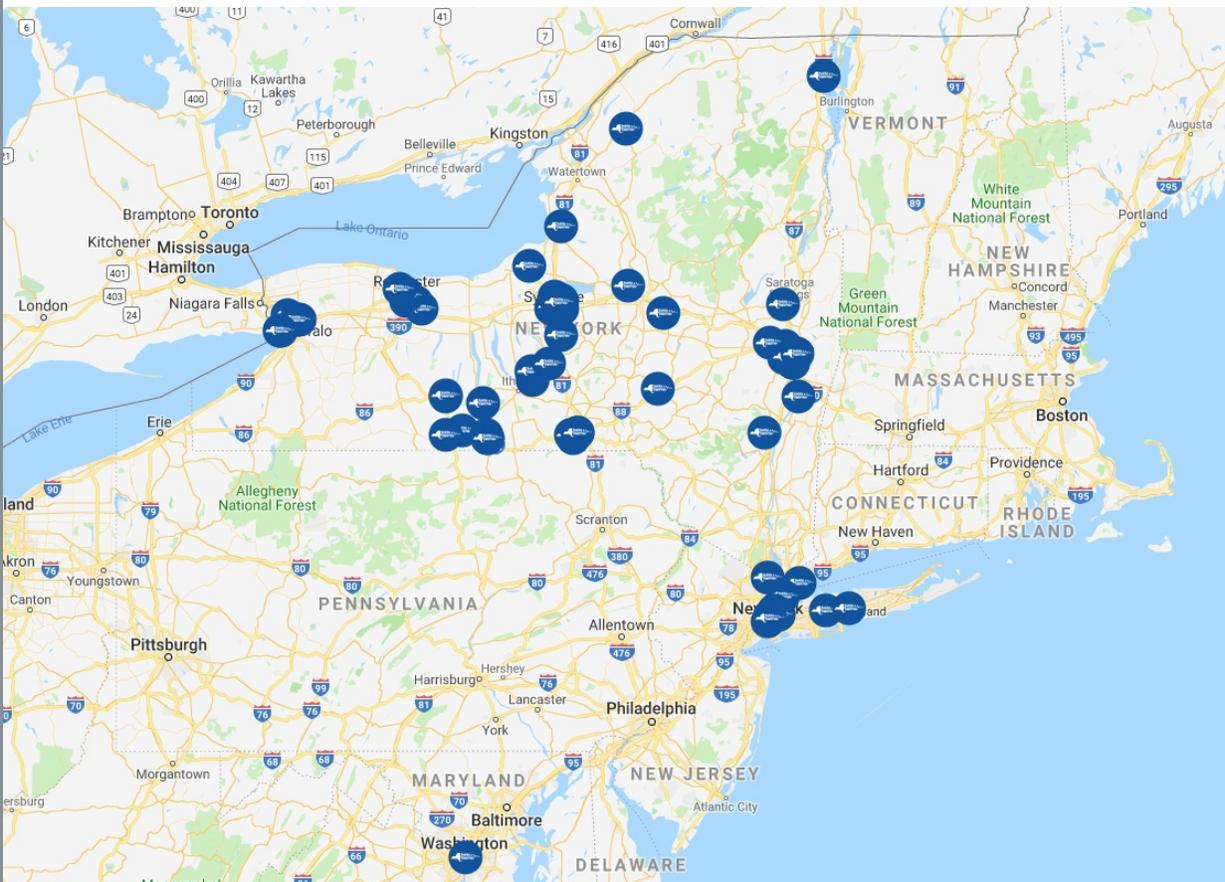
Ahrens Benefits Company
Jerome Cohen Insurance and Benefits

Growing the Coalition

Help us continue to expand our membership in 2021! The coalition is currently 92 members strong. We would like to get to 100 this session.

If you know an organization that also supports allowing a variety of healthcare coverage options rather than forcing all New Yorkers to use a single government-run health insurance program, direct them to the 'Join' section on our website. We are also happy to speak to potential members or provide you with customized materials you can use to recruit potential allies.

Visit our
website



Realities Resources

Useful Links and Information

[New York State 2021 Legislative Session Calendar](#)

[New York Health Act: Cost vs Tax Increase](#)

[What is ERISA? Does it impact the New York Health Act?](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions about the New York Health Act](#)

[Myths and Facts about the New York Health Act](#)

[Single Payer PowerPoint Presentation](#)

[Sample Opposition Memo](#)

[RAND Study on Single Payer](#)
