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ERISA Webinar

Our webinar all about the New York Health Act and ERISA law is this week!

Wednesday, May 5
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

[REGISTER!](#)

We'll be explaining what's in the Single Payer proposal, how federal law known as ERISA could preempt it, polling that shows how New Yorkers feel about current health coverage options and a government-run health care system, and much more.

The presentation will be co-hosted by Leanne Politi from Realities of Single Payer, Lev Ginsburg of The Business Council of NYS, and James Gelfand and Shannon Belmont of ERIC.

Register today if you haven't already!

In case you missed it, we released a policy brief and letter to Legislators:

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

New York Health Act Tracker



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

No updates to report. The bill is not on Assembly or Senate agendas.

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New Coalition Members

We welcome four new members to the coalition this week:

- Rivendell Home & Garden Maintenance**
- Benefit Consultant Insurance Group**
- Marshall & Sterling Insurance**
- Ryan & Ryan Insurance Brokers**

Growing the Coalition

Help us continue to expand our membership in 2021! The coalition is currently **96 members** strong. We would like to get to 100 this session.

If you know an organization that also supports allowing a variety of health care 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

Taking Action

An easy way to share concerns with Legislators is by sending them a digital letter. Head to the [Action page](#) and with a few clicks you can urge your local lawmaker to oppose the New York Health Act. Please share the Action page with your members, too.

If you are interested in submitting an opinion piece, we can assist with the language or getting it placed with a publication. Just let us know. Op-Eds can sometimes be the best way to get your message out there when the press is focused on other issues.

Another action you can take is to issue a memo in opposition to the NYHA. If you have issued one this year or will be doing so, send them our way. Please email your MIO in a PDF format.

We have provided a sample memo you can place on your letterhead and send to us. We'll distribute for you and post on the Realities website. It is available [here](#) or you could simply send us your logo and we can personalize it for you.

Contact [Leanne](#) with MIOs, Op-Eds or any questions.

Government-Run Health Care

Polling shows that the majority of New Yorkers prefer their current health coverage and are opposed to a Single Payer system that would put the state government in control of all care.

The latest data from Canada also reveals how government-run health care leads to longer wait times. Furthermore, those long wait times not only affect a person's well-being but also lead to a negative impact on the economy.

This one-page infographic and more can be found on the Realities[website](#).

Government-Run Single Payer Means Longer Wait Times!

A government-run Single Payer health care system as proposed by the New York Health Act (A.6058/S.5474) would lead to longer wait times for care.

Countries with Single Payer systems are known for their access issues. Waiting for medically necessary treatment has become a defining characteristic of Canadian health care.

In 2020, specialist doctors surveyed by the Fraser Institute reported a median waiting time of 22.6 weeks between referral from a general practitioner and treatment.¹

- ▶ That number is highest for those seeking orthopedic surgery, such as a hip or knee replacement.



- ▶ Patients in that category can end up waiting **34 weeks**.



While all health care systems took a hit due to COVID-19, the pandemic has NOT been the direct cause of Canada's wait times.



In 2019, the median wait time was **20.9 weeks**



Long wait times have **serious consequences** such as increased pain and suffering, both physically and mentally. They can also result in worse medical outcomes, turning potentially reversible illnesses or injuries into chronic, irreversible conditions or disabilities.



Long waits for surgery and medical treatment cost Canadians almost **\$2.8 billion** in lost wages and productivity last year.²

The New York Health Act would be even more restrictive than the Canadian health care system.

New Yorkers can expect to wait a long time for care under Single Payer!

Sources

¹ <https://www.fraserinstitute.org/sites/default/files/waiting-your-turn-2020.pdf>

² <https://www.fraserinstitute.org/sites/default/files/private-cost-of-public-queues-2021.pdf>



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.

[Ten reasons to oppose 'Albanycare'](#)

Empire Center

[Progressives are enlisting businesses in support of New York Health Act](#)
City & State

[Pavlich: Vaccine rollout indicts Canada's government health care system](#)

The Hill

[Medicare for All would put even more strain on doctors](#)

Newsweek

[What a difference a year makes in Colorado's case for a public option plan](#)

Kaiser Health News

[Bill expands Medicaid coverage to all Nevadans with "public option"](#)

Nevada Appeal

[Covid-19: Waiting times in England reach record highs](#)

The BMJ

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](#)

