

2026



ASSEMBLY
MINORITY CONFERENCE

Affordable Accessible Health Care

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NEW YORK STATE

HEALTH CARE AFFORDABILITY

The rising costs of health care are putting a strain on New Yorker's wallets

\$9,589

Highest costs for single coverage in the country

\$27,188

Average cost of employer-sponsored coverage is almost \$3,000 more than the U.S average

80%

Recent polling shows 80% of New Yorkers are either "worried" or "very worried" about health care affordability

NEW YORK STATE

HEALTH CARE QUALITY AND ACCESS

New Yorkers face health care challenges across-the-board

4.4 MILLION

Number of New Yorkers enrolled in taxpayer-funded Medicaid as of September 2024

48TH

With a 2.5 out of 5 rating, New York hospitals ranked 48th in the nation in hospital quality

5%

Recent Census data states 5% of New York's population (nearly 1 million people) are uninsured

WHAT IS THE SOLUTION?

While Assembly Democrats advocate for Government control over your health decisions, the Assembly Republican Conference believes in free-market solutions to increase access, affordability, and quality



➤ REGIONAL APPROACH

Allow partnerships with surrounding states to provide additional options and competition

➤ EXPAND ACCESS

Expand the navigator program, and allow more enrollment options

➤ SAVE MONEY

Expand health savings accounts and ensure cost containment



ASSEMBLY MINORITY HEALTH CARE LEGISLATION

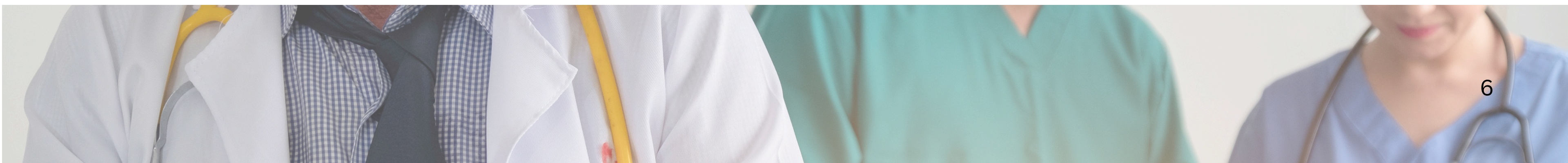


Regional Insurance Compact

- **Northeast Regional Health Insurance Compact**: Direct the Governor to convene a Northeast Regional Health Insurance Compact Summit with nearby states, to discuss the feasibility of creating a Regional Health Insurance Collaborative that allows residents of participating states to purchase qualified health insurance plans offered in any member state (A.9254, Slater)

Expand Access and Reduce Costs

- **Enhance Outreach**: Increase grants to health marketplace navigators in areas of the State with uninsured rates among low-income individuals that are higher than the State average (A.9405, Jensen)
- **Ease Enrollment**: Create a program within the Department of Health to assist individuals without employer-sponsored coverage with enrolling in coverage through state income tax filings, and allow for expanded special enrollment periods for first-time enrollees and individuals enrolling through the tax filing program (A.9378, Jensen).
- **Reduce Costs**: Create a Health Benefit and Cost Commission to review proposed mandated health benefits that may impact the cost of health insurance coverage, and require legislation proposing a mandated health benefit to include a cost-impact statement (A.9367, Jensen)



Assembly Minority Health Care Legislation

Health Savings

- **Increase Savings**: Create a New York State Healthcare Savings Program allowing New Yorkers to save money in a tax advantaged account to use for qualified healthcare expenses ([A.9384, Jensen](#))

Continuity of Care

- **Medicaid Network Access Protection Act**: Ensure Medicaid spending results in real access to medical care by increasing transparency in Medicaid managed care network adequacy reviews and safeguarding continuity of care in light of recent major provider network withdrawals ([A.9312, Slater](#))

