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# NEWS RELEASE

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**NEW YORK HEALTH PLAN ASSOCIATION ON  
GOVERNOR CUOMO'S SAME SEX INFERTILITY COVERAGE PROPOSAL**

*Statement of Leslie Moran, HPA Senior Vice President*

"Our member health plans recognize the type of infertility services announced by Governor Cuomo today are important to same sex couples who wish to start a family.

"While well intended, coverage mandates ultimately increase utilization and costs of services, consequently adding to the overall price of coverage. Moreover, state mandated benefits pertain only to fully-insured policies – generally those purchased either by individuals who buy coverage on their own or receive it through a small or medium-sized business. Currently, more than 50 percent of New Yorkers have coverage under a self-funded plan that is not regulated by the state, so this new 'coverage' may not be available to many New Yorkers hoping to access these services.

"Affordability of health care is the most pressing issue for employers and consumers. Health plans are committed to ensuring LGBTQ New Yorkers have access to comprehensive health care coverage, including services that will help them realize their dreams of having a family, and will work with the administration on implementation of this new benefit. At the same time, we remain focused on working on cost containment efforts aimed at preserving affordability for all New Yorkers and will continue working with the Governor and lawmakers to achieve these goals."