



NEWS RELEASE

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NEW YORK HEALTH PLAN ASSOCIATION ON END OF SESSION

Bills approved by lawmakers will drive up health care costs, make insurance less affordable

Statement from HPA President and CEO Eric Linzer

“Rising costs remain the most pressing issue in health care facing employers and consumers, particularly as we begin to emerge from the coronavirus pandemic. A major driver of premium increases continues to be the excessive prices charged by pharmaceutical companies.

“Unfortunately, several legislative proposals removing tools to address those costs – including prohibiting midyear formulary changes, restricting plans’ use of mail order pharmacy policies, and imposing new mandated benefits and taxes on insurance – will translate into higher health care costs for employers and consumers.”

“Our member health plans are committed to working with lawmakers on measures to rein in the factors driving increases in the cost of care. However, these proposals are the wrong prescription to realize these efforts. While the intention may be to help consumers, ultimately, these bills will exacerbate the challenge in making health care more affordable for all New Yorkers.”