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NEWS RELEASE

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**NEW YORK HEALTH PLAN ASSOCIATION ON GOVERNOR HOCHUL’S STATE OF THE STATE
*Statement by Eric Linzer, HPA President & CEO***

“Every New Yorker deserves affordable, comprehensive coverage, and we applaud Governor Hochul’s proposals to expand access and close the current coverage gap. Efforts to make coverage more affordable and available to more New Yorkers is critical to addressing the racial disparities in health care that the ongoing pandemic has highlighted, and expanding coverage will help advance equity in our health care system.

“We commend the Governor for the proposal to investigate significant price hikes by Big Pharma to protect consumers and employers from out-of-control drug costs, and share her commitment to safeguarding patients from surprise medical bills.

“Our member health plans have been consistent, reliable partners with the State in achieving its health care goals, and we look forward to working with the Governor and the Legislature on these important policy proposals to make health care more affordable for all New Yorkers.”

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The New York Health Plan Association represents 28 managed care health plans that provide comprehensive health care services to more than 8 million New Yorkers.