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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **NEW YORK HEALTH PLAN ASSOCIATION ON ONE-HOUSE BUDGET PROPOSALS**

*Statement by Eric Linzer, HPA President and CEO*

“We applaud the Senate and Assembly for rejecting the hospital-backed pay-and-pursue proposal as it would lead to higher costs for consumers, employer, labor unions and taxpayers, and undermine the quality of care for patients. We commend both houses’ commitment to provide coverage to low-income, undocumented immigrants, furthering the goal of universal coverage.

“We also appreciate each providing funding for the Medicaid managed care quality program, which the Executive budget eliminated. Our hope is that the final FY2024 state budget fully funds this program to support health plans’ ongoing efforts in delivering high-quality care to the state’s most vulnerable residents. Additionally, the Senate and Assembly each rejected the proposed procurement of the Managed Long Term Care program, as it would be disruptive to patients and the providers that care for them.

“While they take different approaches, both houses recognize the problems with the proposal to carve the pharmacy benefit out of Medicaid managed care plans. It will fail to generate savings for the state and result in more fragmented care for Medicaid patients, particularly vulnerable and low-income individuals and those with chronic health conditions. Given these concerns, the final FY2024 state budget should repeal the carve-out.”

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