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January 10, 2025

Dear Members of the New York Congressional Delegation:

The Healthcare Association of New York State, on behalf of our member nonprofit and public hospitals, nursing homes, home health agencies and other healthcare providers, congratulates you on your election to serve in the 119th Congress!

HANYS and our members are committed to ensuring all New Yorkers, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, gender, income level or geographical location, have access to the care they deserve. As such, I write to urge you to move quickly to address outstanding issues that were left unresolved in the long-term last year.

Specifically, HANYS urges Congress to pass long-term extensions on these critical priorities:

- prevent devastating Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital program cuts scheduled for April 1, which would jeopardize care for our most vulnerable populations;
- amend the Medicaid DSH hospital cap calculation, which currently limits access to vital DSH resources for vulnerable hospitals;
- extend Medicare telehealth and Acute Hospital Care at Home flexibilities beyond March 31;
- extend the Medicare enhanced low volume adjustment beyond March 31 to preserve access to care in rural communities; and
- address physician fee payment cuts that took effect Jan. 1.

Additionally, we strongly oppose any site-neutral payment policies or unnecessary and burdensome national provider identifier requirements that would add further strain on our healthcare system.

Our members serve as essential care providers and economic anchors across New York, but their ability to fulfill their vital mission is at serious risk.

In a recent fiscal survey of hospitals across the state conducted by HANYS and our regional allied healthcare association partners, hospitals statewide project a 0.0% median operating margin for 2024, with three out of four hospitals struggling financially. This precarious position stems from severe workforce shortages, escalating expenses, and significant Medicare and Medicaid underpayment.

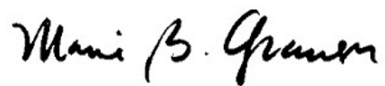
Given these financial conditions, policymakers must prevent harmful cuts and policies that threaten to put New Yorkers' access to healthcare services further at risk.



HANYS stands ready to serve as a resource to you and your staff. Please contact Cristina Batt, senior vice president, federal policy, at cbatt@hanys.org or 202.488.1272, or Amanda Ferguson, senior director, federal relations, at aferguson@hanys.org or 202.488.1276 at any time.

Thank you for your attention to these urgent matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marie B. Grause". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marie B. Grause, RN, JD
President