



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

James L. Seward

Senate Hearing Points Out Healthcare Exchange Trouble-spots

JAMES L. SEWARD January 13, 2014

| ISSUE: **HEALTH, INSURANCE, HEALTH CARE**



ALBANY, 01/13/14 – State Senator James L. Seward (R/C/I-Oneonta) today commented on a senate hearing regarding the implementation of the health insurance exchange (NY State of Health) as part of the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA):

“While New York has been doing a good job when compared with the federal exchange, a number of issues have been brought to my attention. Individuals, sole proprietors, and small business owners have seen their policies cancelled, costs to obtain new policies have skyrocketed for some, and application counselors have been unable to provide assistance in several cases.

“Today’s hearing helped bring many of the problems that I am hearing about to full light. Some of the issues can be chalked up to growing pains that come with implementing this vast and complicated program, but others are more systematic and must be dealt with immediately.

“Keeping healthcare costs in check, while ensuring patients are able to see their doctor and receive the care they need are my goals. At this point in time, these goals are not being met and that must change in short order.”

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Photo attached: Senator James L. Seward (left) speaks with Mary Morse, owner Kwik-Cut Manufacturing in Mohawk. Morse was among those who testified during the hearing, describing her experience seeking coverage through the health care exchange as a small-business owner.