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Nurse Practitioners of New York (NPNY)  
**Written Testimony on the Executive Proposed FY27 Health & Medicaid Budget**  
Submitted to the  
**New York State Senate Finance Committee**  
**New York State Assembly Ways & Means Committee**  
**Joint Legislative Public Hearing on Health/Medicaid**

February 10, 2026

### **Introduction**

Chairpersons and distinguished members of the Legislature: Honorable Finance Chair Senator Krueger; Honorable Ways & Means Chair Assembly Member Pretlow; Health Chair Senator Rivera; and Health Chair Assemblywoman Paulin, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of **Nurse Practitioners of Metropolitan New York (NPNY)**.

NPNY is the independent Metro NY nurse practitioner organization (NPO) member of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners. We are a grassroots not-for-profit organization representing nurse practitioners (NPs) delivering primary, behavioral, reproductive, acute, and community-based care across New York City and New York State.

The FY27 Executive Budget is being advanced during a period of significant Medicaid volatility, federal funding uncertainty, and persistent workforce shortages. These pressures mirror the concerns NPNY raised in our **FY26 testimony**, where we emphasized statutory modernization, Medicaid alignment, reproductive health protections, and workforce stabilization. Those priorities remain urgent, and our FY27 testimony builds directly upon them.

### **I. Medicaid Fiscal Context: Growth, Federal Risk, and Workforce Strain**

- New York's Executive Budget projects **17.1% growth in the state-share of Medicaid**, or **\$6.4 billion**, despite enrollment declines (Fiscal Policy Institute, 2025).
- Department of Health Medicaid spending alone is projected to rise **13.7%**, or **\$4.3 billion**, even as enrollment remains "virtually flat" (Fiscal Policy Institute, 2025).
- Federal changes enacted through the **One Big Beautiful Bill Act (2025)** are projected to reduce New York's federal Medicaid funding by **\$90–\$150 billion over 10 years** (McDermott Will & Emery, 2025).

These pressures underscore the need for cost-effective workforce policies that expand access without increasing state spending. NPNY **supports** the tenet that nurse practitioners (NPs) are central to that solution.



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## II. Legislative Priorities for FY27 (S3822/A1942 and S2360/A1220)

### A. Modernize NP Statutes (S3822 / A1942)

S3822 updates New York law to reflect the scope of practice already authorized for nurse practitioners. NPNY strongly supports S3822 and recommends incorporating:

- **Authorization for nurse practitioners with at least 3,600 hours of clinical experience to serve as Written Practice Agreement (WPA) collaborators for NPs with fewer than 3,600 hours.**

This NP-to-NP WPA provision directly addresses the workforce bottlenecks highlighted in FY26 testimony, where NPNY strongly opposed limiting collaborative relationships solely to physicians. It is consistent with the Nurse Practitioner Modernization Act (NPMA) and national best practices.

### B. Make Permanent the Nurse Practitioner Modernization Act (S2360 / A1220)

The NPMA has expanded access and improved workforce flexibility. Making it permanent – and incorporating NP-to-NP WPA authority – will:

- Support recruitment and retention in high-need areas
- Reduce administrative overhead for health systems
- Ensure continuity of care for Medicaid beneficiaries
- Create a predictable, stable pathway for NP professional progression

**Note:** The FY27 Executive Budget does not include NPMA permanence language; legislative action is required to advance S2360/A1220.

## III. Medicaid Program Design Must Fully Recognize NPs

Building on FY26 testimony, NPNY reiterates that Medicaid must reflect the realities of modern care delivery. We urge the Legislature to:

- Ensure direct Medicaid enrollment and reimbursement for NPs
- Remove billing restrictions requiring physician sign-off
- Include NPs in all Medicaid redesign and value-based payment initiatives



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#### IV. Reproductive Rights and Provider Protections

As emphasized in FY26 testimony, reproductive rights must remain a cornerstone of New York’s health policy. NPNY urges the Legislature to:

- Protect patients’ right to confidential, timely, and evidence-based reproductive health care
- Ensure legal protections for NPs providing lawful reproductive services, including shield protections
- Guarantee that NPs can practice fully within their scope in reproductive health settings
- Affirm that no NP should face retaliation or licensure risk for providing lawful reproductive care

#### V. Workforce and Public Health Investments (Continuity from FY26)

NPNY continues to support investments highlighted in FY26 testimony, including:

- **Preceptor Stipend Program (S4451/A2331)** – \$5,000 stipends for qualified NP preceptors to strengthen clinical education pipelines.
- **Human Milk Bank (INT 0167)** — Establishment of municipal milk banks to improve infant health outcomes.
- **School-Based Health Centers (SBHCs)** — Increased funding to reduce ER use, improve attendance, and expand mental health counseling.
- **Telehealth Coverage and Parity** — Ensuring payment parity for telehealth, including behavioral health services.
- **Affordable Housing Initiatives** — Addressing workforce retention challenges tied to housing instability.
- **Higher Education Instructor/Research Funding and Student Funding** — Investments in nursing, NP, pharmacy, midwifery, PA, CRNA, social work, and allied health professions.



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## Conclusion

Nurse practitioners are essential to New York's health care delivery system. As the Legislature evaluates the FY27 Executive Budget, NPNY urges adoption of:

- **S3822/A1942** (NP statutory modernization, including NP-to-NP WPA authority)
- **S2360/A1220** (permanent NP Modernization Act)
- Medicaid reforms that recognize NPs as full participants in care delivery
- Reproductive rights protections for patients and providers
- Continued investments in workforce, education, research, housing, telehealth, and school-based health center

NPNY stands ready to collaborate with the Legislature and Executive to advance these priorities.

Respectfully submitted,

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