

Lisa Reynolds

My name is Lisa Reynolds and I am from the Bronx, NY. Currently, I am a resident of Patterson Houses. This morning, I am here to tell my story; to testify in favor of the New York Health Act.

In March of 2017 I became ill and had to leave my job. As a result a Workers Compensation case ensued. In this process, I discovered that the insurance carrier for the employer is not liable for medical treatment in association with a patient's injuries, until a case is established. This process could take anywhere from 1 to 3 years or more given the nature/ramifications of the case.

My case was established within the first year. However, the insurance carrier appealed the decision and won. I was terminated from my job. The insurance carrier maintained there stance by denying me access to proper medical care and I was left in limbo.

In april of 2019, after a 2-year process my case was re-established. Nevertheless, losing my job, the threat of being homeless and without proper medical care had not only a physical affect on me, but a psychological one causing unnecessary mental stress and abuse that could have been and should have been avoided.

Affordable healthcare is a must for all New Yorkers. If passed, the New York Health Act will ensure that we are all covered regardless of our employment status and/or circumstance. Employment status and insurance status will no longer be tied.

Without PROPER HEALTH CARE, we have nothing to assist us in achieving and maintaining good health. Access to affordable healthcare fosters survival, pushing us forward; in pursuit of living our best life. I urge you to pass the New York Health Act.