



## MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

### Automatic Enrollment and Recertification Simplification

A.155 (Gottfried)/S.4965 (Rivera)

May 26, 2022

The Community Health Care Association of New York State (CHCANYS) strongly supports Automatic Enrollment and Recertification Simplification A.155 (Gottfried)/S.4965 (Rivera), which would auto-assign members to a Managed Long-Term Care (MLTC) plan if they have not chosen a plan within 75 days of eligibility. This bill would also simplify annual recertification by allowing attestation of resources for renewal purposes.

CHCANYS is the statewide association of New York's 70+ federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), also known as community health centers (CHCs). Located in low-income and medically underserved communities, CHCs provide a full range of primary and preventive health care and enabling services for more than 2.1 million patients at over 800 sites, regardless of insurance, immigration status, or ability to pay. Among CHC patients, 90% are low-income, 68% are Black, Hispanic/Latinx, and people of color, 13% are uninsured, and 59% are enrolled in Child Health Plus or Medicaid, including those dually eligible for Medicare.

This bill would ensure eligible members are enrolled in an MLTC plan, while preserving the option of choice for members who prefer to select their own plan. By nature of their eligibility for long term services and supports (LTSS), eligible members are older or infirmed New Yorkers, and many may not have family or social services to support them with this process. For these members, the plan selection process is a barrier and may delay needed care; automatic enrollment to a MLTC plan, if a plan has not been selected by the member after 75 days of eligibility, would ensure all members are connected to the care they need in a timely manner.

This bill would also preserve continuous coverage by allowing attestation of resources in annual recertification. Individuals on fixed incomes typically do not experience significant increases in their resources. The step of annually submitting documentation of an unchanged financial status is unnecessary and could lead to disenrollment and gaps in care if a member does not submit documentation on a timely basis. This bill would reduce the administrative burden on members and the State by allowing members to attest to unchanged or reduced resources, while still requiring the reporting of increased income or resources.

**CHCANYS urges the New York State Legislature to pass Automatic Enrollment and Recertification Simplification A.155 (Gottfried)/S.4965 (Rivera),** which would simplify a burdensome process for members and would eliminate many delays and disruptions of care.

For questions, please contact Marie Mongeon, Senior Director of Policy, at [mmongeon@chcanys.org](mailto:mmongeon@chcanys.org).