



American Cancer Society ☞ Children's Defense Fund – New York ☞ Center for Working Families  
Community Service Society of New York ☞ Metro New York Health Care for All Campaign  
New Yorkers for Accessible Health Coverage ☞ New York Immigration Coalition  
Public Policy and Education Fund of New York/Citizen Action of New York

October 6, 2008

To New York's Governor:  
The Honorable David A. Paterson  
Office of the Governor  
State Capitol  
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Paterson,

The Health Care For All New York ("HCFANY") Campaign would like to thank you for your recent action to preserve the high standard of health care upon which New York prides itself. HCFANY is a statewide campaign of more than 60 organizations which seeks to win affordable, comprehensive high-quality health care for all New York state residents. We are especially gratified by your Administration's continued efforts to proceed with Statewide Health Reform through the Partnership for Coverage Process. But today, we write specifically to thank you for your recent vetoes of two bills that would have undermined broader Statewide Health Reform.

- Senate Bill Number 8357 (the "young invincible" bill) was an ill-conceived effort to extend a woefully inadequate health benefit package to a super-select group of young people, leaving important populations such as those aging out of public insurance programs like Child Health Plus and Family Health Plus. We are gratified that you chose to veto this bill.
- Assembly Bill Number 395 would have encouraged more New York employers to drop coverage and direct their employees to the HealthyNY program. HCFANY has expressed concerns about this programs benefit package, and is especially gratified that this unfunded bill was vetoed in the absence of a greater Statewide Health Reform discussion.



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Thank you once again for your leadership in the health care field, we stand ready to support you as the Partnership for Coverage (State Health Reform) process unfolds.

Very truly yours,

Elisabeth Benjamin, MSPH, JD  
Director, Health Care Restructuring Initiative  
Community Service Society of New York

cc:

Eric Dinallo, Superintendent, New York State Insurance Department  
Joe Baker, Assistant Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services  
Charlotte Hitchcock, Deputy Secretary  
Troy Oechsner, Deputy Superintendent for Health Insurance