



Actors Fund ☞ African Services Committee ☞ Children's Defense Fund-New York
Community Service Society of New York ☞ Consumers Union ☞ Empire Justice Center
Make the Road New York ☞ Medicare Rights Center ☞ Metro New York Health Care for All Campaign
New Yorkers for Accessible Health Coverage ☞ New York Immigration Coalition ☞ Project CHARGE
Public Policy and Education Fund of New York/Citizen Action of New York
Raising Women's Voices-New York ☞ Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy ☞ Young Invincibles

The Honorable Andrew Cuomo
NYS Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

Health Care For All New York is a statewide coalition of over 170 organizations dedicated to achieving quality, affordable health coverage for all New Yorkers. We are writing to ask that you sign A2969a/S2849, which would prohibit health plans from changing drug formularies mid-contract year under most circumstances. This bill would make a meaningful difference for New Yorkers and be a continuation of New York's strong leadership on behalf of consumers.

Insurers often make major changes to their drug coverage after consumers are already locked into a health plan. Consumers rarely receive notice of these changes until they attempt to fill their prescription, resulting in unexpected costs and missed treatments.

Health insurers do this in an attempt to reduce costs. However, attempts to reduce health care costs should not result in consumers losing access to needed care. New York can pursue other ways to reduce prescription drug spending that do not discourage New Yorkers from following their treatment plans, such as the pharmacy benefit manager licensing bill proposed in the Executive Budget and passed as A2836-A/S6531.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Amanda Dunker
Senior Health Policy Associate
Community Service Society of New York