



March 11, 2026

Mehmet Oz, MD, MBA
Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Re: Invitation to Meet in Albany to Discuss Preventing Waste, Fraud and Abuse within New York's Medicaid Program

Dear Administrator Oz:

We write to invite you to Albany to meet with the Senate Republican Conference to discuss New York's out of control Medicaid program and explore ways the state can partner with the federal government to rid the program of waste, fraud and abuse to ensure only eligible New Yorkers receive benefits and services.

We are encouraged to see the federal government taking the lead in ensuring New York controls the costs of its Medicaid program and identifies and prevents fraud.

The Senate Republican Conference has been raising the alarm about the skyrocketing cost of New York's Medicaid program, which now stands at a staggering \$124 billion. As you outlined in your letter to Governor Hochul, New York's average Medicaid spending per resident is nearly 80 percent higher than the national average.

New York's Medicaid spending has always been high but has risen at concerning rates since Governor Hochul took office in 2021. In the four budgets overseen by Governor Hochul, the State's share of Medicaid costs skyrocketed 60% at a time when Medicaid enrollment is decreasing.¹

¹ Hammond, Bill. *Hochul Continues to Bribe Big Health with Reckless Medicaid Spending*. The Empire Center. 20 February 2026.

There have been countless examples of waste, fraud and abuse within the program, including:

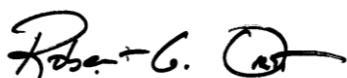
- \$2.6 billion in Medicaid payments to people who may not live in New York²;
- Up to 3 million individuals on New York's Medicaid rolls that are ineligible for benefits³;
- \$196 million in improper Medicaid transportation payments⁴;
- \$120 million in illegal Medicaid kickback and bribes from fraudsters in Queens⁵;
- \$68 million in adult daycare Medicaid fraud in Brooklyn⁶;
- \$7 million in unnecessary tests covered by Medicaid by a California clinic targeting New York⁷; and
- \$3.5 million in fraudulent Medicaid claims by a couple in Orange County⁸.

We believe the best way to strengthen the State's Medicaid program, and ensure resources are available to those that truly need them, is to root out waste, fraud and abuse.

We welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss these issues further and explore ways the state and federal government can work together to restore accountability to New York's Medicaid program.

We look forward to your response and hope to work with you in the future.

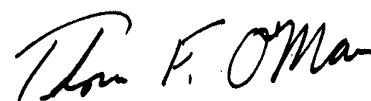
Sincerely,



Robert G. Ort
Senate Minority Leader
62nd District



Senator Andrew Lanza
24th District



Senator Tom O'Mara
58th District

² Sheridan, Johan. *Audit: New York Medicaid may have Wasted Billions on Out-of-State Residents*. News 10. 10 September 2025.

³ Hammond, Bill. *Medicaid Overdose*. The Empire Center. 26 November 2024.

⁴ Moore, Chadwick. *New York Medicaid Transport Plagued by Fraud, with Drivers Scamming up to \$196M*. NY Post. 10 February 2026.

⁵ Silverman, Hollie. *Trump DOJ Finds New Day Care Scam in New York* at [Trump DOJ finds new day care scam in New York](#)

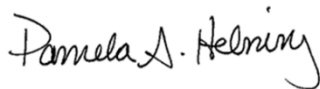
⁶ Department of Justice Website. *Eight Charged in \$68M Social Adult Day Care and Home Health Care Scheme*. 9 October 2024.

⁷ Office of the Medicaid Inspector General. *Following OMIG-Assisted, Multi-Agency Investigation, Medical Clinic Operator Sentenced in \$7 Million Medicaid Fraud Scheme*. 10 February 2025.

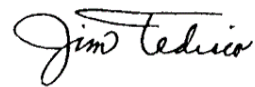
⁸ NYS Comptroller News Release. *NYS Comptroller DiNapoli and District Attorney Hoovler Announce Indictment in Medicaid Fraud Case*. 18 November 2025



Senator Patrick Gallivan
60st District



Senator Pam Helming
54th District



Senator Jim Tedisco
44th District



Senator Peter Oberacker
51st District



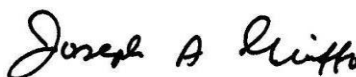
Senator Daniel G. Stec
45th District



Senator Anthony Palumbo
1st District



Senator Alexis Weik
8th District



Senator Joseph Griffo
53rd District



Senator Mario Mattera
2nd District



Senator Mark Walczyk
49th District



Senator Jake Ashby
43rd District



Senator William Weber
38th District



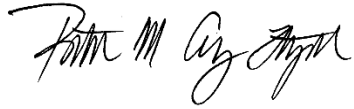
Senator Dean Murray
3rd District



Senator Steve Rhoads
5th District



Senator Jack M. Martins
7th District



Senator Patricia Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick
9th District



Senator George Borrello
57th District