Comments from Meetings with Minority Leaders - September 2020

Agree that there is an Urban/Rural divide and that the Republican Conference is on the Rural side of this divide

Both 2020 and 2021 will be very difficult Budgets for NYS

NYS is depending on federal funding to help with balancing the Budget

Issues Overtly Supported

* Rural Broadband
* Telehealth
* Access to COVID testing in rural communities [mobile test sites, rapid testing machines etc.]
* Regulatory relief for rural EMS

Issues Opposed

* Mandatory nursing ratios

Issue Previously Unfamiliar

* NYS action to ‘carve-out’ 340B pharmacy program

Other Notes from meetings with Senate Minority Leader Robert Ortt

* Very concerned about staffing in nursing homes and long-term care
* Regulatory reform ‘never seems to occur’
* Perception that regulated and taxed marijuana will pass sometime
  + Support for language including SUD set-aside from funds raised
  + Concern for employer liability
* 20% budget cuts likely to be permenent
* 2021 will be worse than 2020

Other Notes from meetings with Assembly Minority Leader Will Barclay

* DOH not permitting school-based dental care
* It looks like Sales Tax is recovering