



Legislative Priorities

Our 183 member organizations serve more than 1.5 million individuals living in rural areas across the state, and represent the entire ecosystem of organizations supporting health and wellness in New York's rural regions. Our membership includes academic and university representatives, social care organizations, licensed healthcare professionals and individuals who live, work in and support rural health and wellness in New York.

Support For Rural First Responders

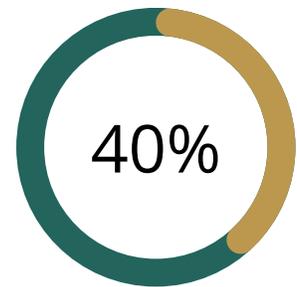
- Close The Medicaid Payment Gap | [S.3768](#) / [A.2442](#) |
 - Allows for reimbursement of transportation costs for emergency care.
- First Responder Peer Support | [S.5407-A](#) / [A.7285-A](#) |
 - Establishes peer-to-peer mental program to first responders.
- Strengthen Community Paramedicine | [S.5333](#) / [A.1309](#) |
 - Authorizes collaborative programs for community paramedicine services.

Good rural policies allow flexibility in terms of where, how, and by whom work gets done.

Address Healthcare Workforce Shortages

- Interstate Nurse Licensure Compact | [S.3916](#) / [A.4524](#) |
 - Enables interstate nursing practice based on a common set of licensing requirements, 42 participating states.
- Temporary Practice Authorization | [S.8341-A](#) / [A.8472B](#) |
 - Permits out-of-state nurses to practice temporarily while awaiting licensure.
- Telehealth Flexibility
 - Ensure telehealth flexibility by maintaining payment parity and allowing audio-only services when appropriate.

Did You Know?



In every rural region of New York, more than 40% of residents rely on public health insurance programs like Medicaid and Medicare.*

*<https://www.osc.ny.gov/files/reports/pdf/health-insurance-coverage-in-new-york-state.pdf>