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THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK



**MICHELLE HINCHEY**  
Senator, 46<sup>TH</sup> District

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October 25, 2022

Hon. Eric Adams  
Mayor, City of New York  
City Hall  
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor Adams,

It has recently come to my attention that New York City municipal employees and retirees represented by DC 37 have been notified of a potentially drastic change in their health care benefits, including limiting access to providers for those employees or retirees that reside outside of the City of New York, many of which are my constituents. I implore your administration to reevaluate this policy change immediately and honor past collective bargaining agreements that ensured access to quality health care for these employees and retirees.

Employees and retirees forced into Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Medicare Advantage Plans (MAPs) could lose access to their health care providers and health care facilities as there are no protections to guarantee that those two options have to remain affiliated with any of the current health care insurance options. If retirees specifically are forced into a MAP, they will face extensive pre-authorizations, which are not required under traditional Medicare, and can lead to adverse health consequences. Furthermore, retirees especially would not be able to keep their private Part D prescription plans, which are necessary to augment union negotiated prescription plans.

As you might not be aware, those New York City employees and retirees that reside outside of the City, especially in upstate areas such as my district, are already finding access to quality health care challenging. To further exacerbate that challenge by limiting their provider choices cannot be an option. I respectfully ask that this policy proposal be abandoned and that additional thought be given to how best to ensure City employees residing in the Hudson Valley and upstate areas will be guaranteed quality health care moving forward.

Sincerely,

Michelle Hinchey  
New York State Senator, District 46

cc: Hon. Kathy Hochul, Governor of New York  
Hon. Carmen De La Rosa, Chair, New York City Council Civil Service and Labor Committee  
Shaun D. Francois I, President, District Council 37