To the New York State Congressional Delegation:

On April 20th we wrote to you on behalf of consumers, health care and human service workers, providers, and insurers strongly urging you to reject the American Health Care Act (AHCA). We expressed concern that the AHCA would strip insurance from millions of New Yorkers, profoundly restructure and cut billions of dollars from the New York State Medicaid program, and cut reimbursement to the state’s already financially fragile health care and human service providers.

Now, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has confirmed our concerns.

Specifically, the CBO estimates that the bill that passed the House on May 4 will:

- Increase the ranks of the uninsured by 23 million by 2026
- Cut Federal funding for Medicaid by $834 billion over 10 years
- Cut Medicaid enrollment by 17% over five years
- Raise premiums for older Americans to as much as five times those for younger people in many states

Worse, the final version of AHCA would cause great harm to New York State’s Medicaid program by imposing an additional Federal Medicaid cut of $2.3 billion annually on top of already significant cuts that would occur through the
proposed per capita cap program. Of great concern, the bill would eliminate funding for our Essential Plan that currently provides nearly 700,000 New Yorkers with low-cost comprehensive health insurance coverage. In short, this bill hurts New York State more than any other state in the nation.

We are very grateful that a bipartisan group of 20 members of the New York Congressional delegation agreed with us and voted against the bill. Unfortunately, seven members voted for it. If just two of those seven had voted with the majority of their New York colleagues, the bill would have failed and New Yorkers would have been protected from the AHCA’s severely harmful impacts.

The bill now moves to the Senate. As we stated in our previous letter, we believe the entire New York Congressional delegation should fight for policies that:

- Ensure uninterrupted health insurance coverage for the 24 million Americans, including the 850,000 New Yorkers, who gained coverage under the Affordable Care Act (ACA)
- Do not harm New York State’s budget and do not shortchange New York’s Medicaid program by repealing the expansion under the ACA and profoundly restructuring it into a per capita cap program
- Protect the more than 700,000 New Yorkers who gained coverage under the ACA’s Essential Plan
- Do not harm health care consumers and providers
- Maintain and improve our insurance markets for individuals, families, and small employers

We urge you to work together with your colleagues and New York’s healthcare and human services community to advance policies that benefit your constituents. We stand ready to work with you on such an effort.

AARP NY
Greater New York Hospital Association
Healthcare Association of New York State
Leading Age New York
Coalition of Provider Associations (COPA)
Cerebral Palsy Associations of NYS (CP of NYS)
NYSARC
New York State Rehabilitation Association
New York State Association of Health Care Providers
Home Care Association of New York State
Continuing Care Leadership Coalition
Greater New York Health Facilities Association
Medical Society of the State of New York
Community Service Society of New York
Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy
New York State Coalition of Public Health Plans
New York Association on Independent Living
Consumers Union
UJA Federation
Medicare Rights Center
New York StateWide Senior Action Council
Citizen Action
Health Care for All New York
Metro New York Health Care for All
New York State AFL-CIO
1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East
New York State Nurses Association
Doctors Council SEIU
Committee of Interns and Residents
Communications Workers of America District 1
Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA)
AFSCME DC 37