Mandated Benefits Increase Health Insurance Costs and the Burden on New Yorkers

LOCAL BUSINESS RELIEF COALITION

More Mandates = Less Affordability

The cost of an individual required benefit may be small, but collectively the cost of mandates add up and lead to significantly higher health insurance costs.

New York mandates coverage for dozens of specific treatments or services, many of which are for therapies or screenings that go beyond evidence-based guidelines recommended by major national health organizations, adding to premium costs.

Every year lawmakers introduce dozens of new proposals that would would impose new coverage requirements or expand existing benefit mandates.

At least 29 states have a process to estimate the cost of health care mandates so that there is an understanding of their impact on premiums for businesses and families. New York should adopt such a process..

- **Halt new health insurance mandates until there is a transparent process to evaluate their costs.**
- **Require DFS to conduct a review of New York's mandated benefits in effect as of December 31, 2024 and issue a report detailing both the individual and cumulative costs of the mandates on insurance premiums.**
- **Require DFS to conduct a cost analysis of legislation mandating new insurance benefits to examine the impact on insurance premiums prior to the adoption of such legislation.**

Local Businesses Need Relief

- **Each new mandate comes with a cost** that increases health insurance premiums and adds to the burden for small and local businesses.
- New York needs to **hit pause on new mandates,** develop a process for reviewing proposals, **and focus on addressing rising health care costs.**

Consumers and employers deserve information. Mandate transparency on the price of required benefits and the impact on affordability of coverage.