**CONFERENCE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT**

**SUBCOMMITTEE:** Health, Insurance and Aging

**DATE:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022

**PLACE:** The meeting of the Conference Subcommittee was held virtually.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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| ***SENATE*** |
| Gustavo Rivera (Co-Chair) |
| Neil Breslin |
| Rachel May |
| Cordell Cleare (alternate)Patrick Gallivan  |
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***ASSEMBLY***

Richard N. Gottfried (Co-Chair)

Kevin Cahill

Ron Kim

Maritza Davila

Karines Reyes (alternate)

Maritza Davila

Kevin Byrne

Jake Ashby (alternate)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

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| ***ASSEMBLY*** | ***SENATE*** |
| Daniel Rosenthal (alternate)  | Peter Harckham |
|  | Peter Oberacker (alternate) |

**DISCUSSION:**

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Assemblymember Gottfried and Senator Rivera.

Assemblymember Gottfried and Senator Rivera introduced the members of the Assembly and Senate Subcommittees and appointed the Assembly and Senate’s recording secretaries.

Assemblymember Gottfried made opening remarks, stating that the Governor’s Executive budget was the best he has seen as the Chair of the Assembly Health committee with room to make it better, highlighting that the Assembly accepted many of the Executive’s proposals while proposing additional parts that could improve it. The Assemblymember stated that he was hopeful that the Assembly and Senate could work toward agreements to move the budget closure to perfection.

Senator Rivera made opening remarks recalling that the last decade of budgets related to health, mental health, and individuals with development disabilities faced disinvestment and the Executive Budget did a good job of heading in the right direction with long-term investments in health care across the state. Senator Rivera then expressed the belief that the Senate will be able to move in the right direction while working with the Assembly and Executive.

Senator Gallivan discussed the Senate Minority Council’s concerns over the Assembly and Senate’s proposals to repeal the Medicaid Global Cap and nursing home requirements related to revenue and direct care hours. Senator Gallivan then highlighted the proposals which the Senate Minority Council was pleased to see related to rejecting the Executive’s proposal to competitively procure Medicaid Long Term Care Plans, changes to medical malpractice insurance, and eliminating prescriber prevails as well as accepting healthcare workforce initiatives and the infusion of funding for safety-net and distressed hospitals. The Senator closed by expressing a willingness to work with the Executive, Assembly, and Senate to create a complete budget.

Assemblymember Byrne voiced concerns over repealing the Medicaid Global Cap, the Assembly One House proposal to allow individuals to access the Essential Plan regardless of immigration status, and supporting distressed and safety net hospitals by using the county government tax intercept. Assemblymember Byrne expressed his approval of health care workforce initiatives in nursing homes and adult care facilities, omitting the Executive proposal to eliminate prescriber prevails and changes to the medical malpractice insurance policy, and re-establishing the adult fibrosis program while expressing a want to include funding in the final budget for a thorough review of New York State’s pandemic response.

The Conference Committee concludes its work at 2:18 p.m.

**Recording Secretary:** Steven Methe, Program and Counsel