

Memorandum of SUPPORT



To: Members of the Ways and Means Committee, and All
Legislative Members

Re: **A.782 (Peoples-Stokes)/S.1451 (Sanders)**
AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to collaborative models for
addressing health care disparities

Reported to W&M 5/9/23; Passed Senate 3/1/23

Date: May 9, 2023

The Home Care Association of New York State (HCA) strongly supports S.1451 (Sanders)/A.782 (Peoples-Stokes).

Senate 1451 passed the Senate on March 1, and A.782 was reported today (May 9) from Assembly Health to Ways and Means. HCA urges prompt passage by Ways and Means and by the full Assembly.

The purpose of this legislation is to include under the state's Hospital-Home Care-Physician Collaborative Program (PLH 2805-x) initiatives to address disparities in health care access, treatment and/or conditions of higher prevalence in certain populations such as racial and ethnic minority groups; persons with disabilities; women; the poor; and persons living in rural and other medically unserved and underserved geographic areas.

Disparities are defined as differences in health outcomes and their causes among groups of people. Disparities emerge when some groups of people have less access to or engagement with opportunities and resources over their lifetime and across generations.

This legislation would facilitate collaborative opportunities to harness core parts of the continuum for coordinated disparities intervention. According to the state's Public Health and Health Planning Council and the NYS Department of Health Prevention Agenda, "ensuring that health care is culturally and linguistically competent, accessible and available to all are keys to reducing health and health care disparities." The legislation would further sync with the state's efforts that are well-under way to procure a new federal waiver supporting this goal.

Home care providers specifically have shown through the Collaborative Program that they are well-positioned to provide culturally competent and person-center interventions that are viable and effective in addressing health disparities across the state. By authorizing programs of collaboration between hospitals, home care agencies and physicians targeted at health disparities, this legislation would encourage health care innovations designed to improve health outcomes for underserved persons and, reduce health care costs within the State.

The Home Care Association of New York State is an impassioned participant in the evolution of this legislation and in supporting home care partnership in addressing health disparities https://hca-nys.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/HCA-Addressing-Disparities-Through-Home-Care_2019.pdf. Affirming the model that this legislation would connect with, see this new report jointly published with the state and regional hospital associations on the transformative impacts of hospital-home care-physician collaboration models <https://hca-nys.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/COMPENDIUM-OF-STATEWIDE-HOSPITAL-HOME-CARE-COLLABORATIVE-MODELS.pdf>

NYS HCA urges you to advance this timely and critically important legislation.