

Legislative Priorities for 2025–2026

The HCP Advocate 9.9.2025

HCP's Public Policy Committee has formally identified the legislative priorities that will guide our advocacy in the year ahead. These priorities reflect both the urgent needs of New York's home care providers and the voices of members across the state.

Budget Priority: Covering the True Cost of Care

While past discussions have pointed to an increase as a baseline need, HCP will be calling for something stronger: funding that fully covers the actual cost of care. Licensed home care agencies cannot meet mandated wage and benefit requirements, support their workforce, and sustain service delivery on partial reimbursement. We will press for statutory language (described below) requiring Medicaid reimbursement rates to cover the real costs of providing high-quality, legally compliant care.

We're working with our contract lobbying firm, Reid, McNally, and Savage, to explore options for a media buy on this issue. The goal: to spotlight home care and build an ecosystem that raises our visibility across the state. By coordinating advocacy inside and outside the Capitol, we'll keep home care front and center.

Core Legislative Priorities

- **Establish Regional Base Reimbursement Rates ([A1112 Paulin/S3599 Rivera](#)):** To ensure stability and predictability, HCP supports the creation of regional base rates that reflect actual costs in different parts of the state. This reform would guarantee payment of mandated wages and benefits while sustaining high-quality care across diverse communities.
- **Repeal the LHCSA RFO ([A8137 Paulin/S7874 Rivera](#)):** To prevent unnecessary disruption and safeguard consumer choice, HCP will continue to urge repeal of the Request for Offers process, which threatens access to care and the viability of small and community-based agencies.

Issues for Further Discussion

The Committee also reviewed the **Home Care Savings and Reinvestment Act ([Paulin A2018](#))**, which proposes eliminating the partially capitated Medicaid Managed Long Term Care program. This issue remains under active debate for the Committee, with compelling arguments on both sides about efficiency, transparency, and care coordination.

Looking Ahead: Strategic Messaging to Support Our Priorities

HCP is committed to providing our members with the tools to effectively advocate for these priorities. In the coming days, we will roll out a coordinated messaging strategy that contextualizes our asks, linking funding requests and policy reforms to the stability of the workforce, the survival of agencies, and the well-being of patients.

The year ahead will demand unified advocacy. By speaking with one voice, we can ensure that New York's home care system has the resources and stability it needs to serve vulnerable populations across the state.