

Agenda

Human Services Committee

**June 17, 2020, 5:00 pm, Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

Gerace Office Building, Mayville, NY

- A. Call to Order
- B. Approval of Minutes (05/20/20)
- C. Privilege of the Floor
- 1. Proposed Motion - Calling on the State of New York to Release Enhanced Federal Medicaid Matching Funds to Counties and New York City
- 2. Discussion – Review of Departments and Services – Re: Preliminary 2021 Budget – Department Heads under Human Services
- 3. Other

**CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY**  
**MOTION NO. \_\_\_-20**

**TITLE:** Calling on the State of New York to Release Enhanced Federal Medicaid Matching Funds to Counties and New York City

**AT THE REQUEST OF:** Chairman Pierre Chagnon and County Executive Paul M. Wendel, Jr.:

WHEREAS, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress has enacted extraordinary measures to help states and localities with increased costs and lost revenue; and

WHEREAS, a key action enacted by the Federal Government was a 6.2 percent increase in the federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP); and

WHEREAS, Congress has used this mechanism to provide fiscal relief to states and their local government Medicaid funding partners to reduce the financial burden they often experience in an economic downturn; and

WHEREAS, we understand the State of New York has already drawn down about \$2.5 billion for the period January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS under federal law a portion of these funds are required to be passed through to counties and New York City; and

WHEREAS, we estimate the local share is about 20 percent; and

WHEREAS, counties and New York City are struggling with higher costs associated with responding to COVID-19 and experiencing extensive revenue declines due to the shutdown of large swaths of the economy; and

WHEREAS, in addition to mounting losses in local revenues, counties are also expecting significant cuts in state aid; and

WHEREAS, many counties have enacted plans to reduce non-mandated expenses to the degree they can without sacrificing public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, these expense reductions also require a review of the workforce, including furloughs and layoffs; and

WHEREAS, we project that each quarter of enhanced FMAP funding is worth hundreds of millions of dollars for counties and New York City; and

WHEREAS, the State has been holding three years of similar enhanced FMAP payments owed to counties and New York City under the Affordable Care Act that are worth hundreds of millions of dollars for counties and New York City; now therefore be it

KNOWN, That Chautauqua County is requesting that the State immediately release the first quarter of enhanced Medicaid federal matching funds for the pandemic response to

Chautauqua County to provide some partial fiscal relief to the current conditions; and be it further

KNOWN, That we request that the State provide a timeline to all counties on the release of the enhanced federal Medicaid matching funds related to the Affordable Care Act that have been withheld for years and the likely mechanism on how these funds will be delivered to counties and New York City; and be it further

KNOWN, That we understand the State is experiencing severe fiscal stress as well, and we want to work cooperatively with the State to develop a plan on the release of the withheld federal enhanced Medicaid funds due to counties under the Affordable Care Act and future pandemic FMAP increased funding; and be it further

MOVED, That certified copies of this Motion be sent to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Senator George Borrello, Assemblyman Andrew Goodell, the New York State Association of Counties, and all others deemed necessary and proper.