

STATE OF NEW YORK

3768

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 29, 2025

Introduced by Sen. SANDERS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to reimbursement of transportation costs for emergency care

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 365-h of the social services law,
2 as amended by section 20 of part B of chapter 109 of the laws of 2010,
3 is amended and a new subdivision 7 is added to read as follows:

4 1. The local social services official and, subject to the provisions
5 of subdivision four of this section, the commissioner of health shall
6 have responsibility for prior authorizing transportation of eligible
7 persons and for limiting the provision of such transportation to those
8 recipients and circumstances where such transportation is essential,
9 medically necessary and appropriate to obtain medical care, services or
10 supplies otherwise available under this title. However, prior authori-
11 zation shall not be required for transportation to obtain emergency
12 care, including emergency medical transportation by an ambulance service
13 certified under article thirty of the public health law.

14 7. With respect to transportation and care provided to an eligible
15 person by an ambulance service certified under article thirty of the
16 public health law, the commissioner of the department of health shall
17 establish a reimbursement methodology that ensures that providers are
18 reimbursed at the greater of the medical assistance rate in effect on
19 the effective date of this subdivision, or the medicare allowable charge
20 (pursuant to title XVIII of the federal social security act) for such
21 transportation and care. The amount of increase in reimbursement
22 produced by this methodology over what would otherwise have been paid
23 shall be phased in as follows: in the state fiscal year in which the
24 provisions of this subdivision become law, thirty-three percent; in the
25 following state fiscal year, sixty-six percent; and in the second state

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 fiscal year following the state fiscal year in which the provisions of
2 this subdivision become law and all subsequent fiscal years, one hundred
3 percent.

4 § 2. Subdivision 1 of section 368-a of the social services law is
5 amended by adding a new paragraph (aa) to read as follows:

6 (aa) Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of this chapter or any
7 other provision of law to the contrary, one hundred percent of the
8 amount expended for medical assistance under this title for transporta-
9 tion and care furnished under subdivision four of section three hundred
10 sixty-five-h of this title on or after April first, two thousand twen-
11 ty-five, after first deducting therefrom any federal funds properly
12 received or to be received on account thereof.

13 § 3. This act shall take effect on the first of April next succeeding
14 the date on which it shall have become a law, provided that the amend-
15 ments to section 365-h of the social services law made by section one of
16 this act shall not affect the repeal and reversion of such section
17 pursuant to subdivision (a) of section 40 of part B of chapter 109 of
18 the laws of 2010, as amended.