STATE OF NEW YORK

9254

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

November 21, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. SLATER -- read once and referred to the Committee on Insurance

AN ACT relating to enacting the "northeast regional health insurance compact act"

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

Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "northeast regional health insurance compact act".

§ 2. (a) The Legislature finds that:

(i) The rising cost of health insurance coverage has created challenges for New York residents and businesses.

(ii) A regional, market-based approach could increase competition, choice, and affordability by allowing residents to select qualified health insurance products offered in any participating northeast state.

(iii) Collaborative action is necessary to seek federal waivers and create a health insurance market that reflects the principles of federalism and state innovation.

(iv) It is in the best interest of New Yorkers to pursue multi-state solutions rather than unilateral, government-run programs that may impose significant fiscal and policy impacts.

(b) The purpose of this act is to authorize and direct the governor of New York to convene a summit of northeast states to explore and develop a regional health insurance collaborative for offering multi-state health insurance options.

§ 3. (a) Within ninety days of the effective date of this act, the governor shall invite the governors of Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, Maine, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania to participate in a northeast regional health insurance compact summit along with their respective health and insurance regulators.

(b) The purpose of the summit shall be to:

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

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(i) Discuss the feasibility of creating a regional health insurance collaborative that allows residents of participating states to purchase qualified health insurance plans offered in any member state;

(ii) Explore mechanisms for seeking federal waivers under section 1332 of the Affordable Care Act or other applicable federal law to facilitate interstate health insurance offerings;

(iii) Identify regulatory, legal, and administrative barriers to multi-state health insurance markets;

(iv) Develop a framework for state cooperation, including governance structures, data sharing, consumer protections, and dispute resolution; and

(v) Assess potential impacts on insurance markets, consumer choice, affordability, and state revenues.

(c) The governor may designate the commissioner of health, the superintendent of financial services, or other appropriate officials to represent New York at the summit.

(d) The summit shall produce a report of findings and recommendations to be submitted to the legislature within one hundred eighty days of the first convening.

§ 4. (a) Subject to further legislative approval, New York may enter into an interstate compact or cooperative agreement with participating northeast states to establish a regional health insurance collaborative.

(b) The collaborative may:

(i) Facilitate the offering of qualified health insurance plans across state lines;

(ii) Establish uniform standards for plan certification, rates, cost-sharing requirements, consumer protections, and regulatory oversight;

(iii) Coordinate with federal agencies to obtain necessary waivers or approvals;

(iv) Create a governance structure with representation from each participating state;

(v) Develop mechanisms for revenue sharing, risk adjustment, and reinsurance as appropriate; and

(vi) Promote transparency, competition, and consumer choice in health insurance markets.

(c) Participation in the collaborative shall be voluntary for states and shall not require New York to adopt policies inconsistent with state law or the interests of New York residents.

§ 5. The governor shall submit an annual report to the legislature detailing:

(a) Progress in developing the regional health insurance collaborative;

(b) Any agreements, compacts, or memoranda of understanding entered into with other states;

(c) Federal waiver applications and approvals;

(d) Impacts on New York's health insurance market, including enrollment, premiums, and consumer satisfaction; and

(e) Recommendations for further legislative action.

§ 6. (a) The governor is authorized to:

(i) Convene the northeast regional health insurance compact summit as described in section three of this act;

(ii) Participate in discussions and planning activities with other states;

(iii) Designate state officials to represent New York in collaborative efforts; and

(iv) Submit any required applications or waiver requests to federal agencies as developed by the collaborative.

(b) Implementation of regional health insurance operations, and material financial or statutory commitments by the state of New York, shall require further specific authorization by the legislature.

§ 7. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this act shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the legislature that this act would have been enacted even if such invalid provisions had not been included herein.

§ 8. This act shall take effect immediately.