



March 2023

Dear Governor Hochul,

Thank you for supporting SUNY, academic medicine and safety net hospitals in this year's Executive Budget. We are particularly grateful for your support of the health care workforce, emergency care, mental health services, as well as capital spending authority and full DSH funding for the SUNY academic medical centers.

In addition to the proposed investments in health care and SUNY in your Executive Budget, we urge that you include the following legislative initiatives in the final budget package in order to help protect the health and safety of the communities we serve:

- **Capital Debt Service Relief** for the three SUNY academic medical centers as proposed by both chambers;
- Compromise language from both chambers **keeping the Medicaid 340B Retail Pharmacy Benefit under managed care** so that safety net care for Medicaid patients does not become more fragmented, particularly for minority and underserved populations and those with complex health conditions;
- **SUNY Mental Health Services, Medicaid provider reimbursement, graduate student fee relief, and Educational Opportunity Program** investments proposed by both chambers;
- **\$200M in endowment matching funds for SUNY campuses including Upstate** as proposed by the Assembly; and
- Approval of **nursing simulation legislation** as proposed by the Senate, and **increased funding for high needs nursing programs** as proposed by the Assembly, to address New York's nursing shortage crisis.

As always, thank you for your leadership and for your commitment to the people of New York and the entire SUNY Upstate Medical University community.

Sincerely,

(First and Last Name)

(Upstate Job Title)

(Zip Code of Residence)