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The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of the State of New York
New York State Capitol
<via email>

Governor Hochul:

I write to express my serious concern regarding the growing loss of healthcare access for Hudson Valley residents resulting from recent provider contract disputes with Fidelis Care.

Earlier this year, many constituents lost access to their longtime physicians when Optum Medical ended its participation with Fidelis. Now, beginning July 15, 2026, Northwell Health—including Vassar Brothers Medical Center and other former Nuvance Health facilities—is expected to become out of network for many Fidelis members, leaving countless families without access to the doctors and hospitals they have relied on for years.

While I recognize these are private contract negotiations, the impact on patients is very much a public concern. No one should be forced to change physicians during a pregnancy, cancer treatment, or the management of a chronic illness because of a breakdown in contract negotiations.

I respectfully urge your administration to work with the Department of Health and the Department of Financial Services to encourage continued negotiations, protect continuity of care, and ensure Fidelis members maintain adequate access to healthcare providers throughout the Hudson Valley.

Our constituents deserve certainty and uninterrupted access to quality healthcare. I appreciate your attention to this matter and stand ready to work with your administration and all stakeholders to help protect the patients we serve.

Sincerely,

Anil R. Beephan Jr.
New York State Assemblyman
District 105 (Dutchess County)

CC: Dr. James V. McDonald, MD, MPH, Commissioner, New York State Department of Health; Kaitlin Asrow, Acting Superintendent, New York State Department of Financial Services; Michael Dowling, President & Chief Executive Officer, Northwell Health; Mark C. Montoney, President & Chief Executive Officer, Fidelis Care.

Protecting Healthcare Access for Fidelis Members in the Hudson Valley.