arry Bronson **ASSEMBLYMEMBER**

health care services is improving mental

AN UPDATE FROM ASSEMBLYMEMBER HARRY BRONSON:

Prioritizing the Mental Health and Wellness of Our Families

After the last two years, it's even more important to ensure everyone has access to the mental health services they need to live a happy, healthy life. From increasing options to caring for some of our most vulnerable,

> I'm fighting to ensure we support those facing mental health struggles. 77



ASSEMBLYMEMBER

Assemblymember Harry Bronson: Supporting New Yorkers' mental health and wellness

Achieving real results for our community

Bronson sponsored and passed laws that:

ensure Medicaid covers services provided by mental health counselors and marriage and family therapists (Ch. 97 of 2022). These licensed practitioners can directly bill Medicaid for services under this law, removing an undue burden and bringing transparency to Medicaid billing.

established guidelines to safely allow personal and compassionate caregiving visitation at nursing homes and adult care facilities (Ch. 89 of 2021). Under this law, designated caregivers can continue visiting their loved ones by following the same protocols as staff.



ASSEMBLYMEMBER

Harry B. Bronson

Are you or someone you know experiencing a mental health crisis?

Call 211 or 585-275-5151, or text 989-211 to connect with Rochester's Person in Crisis (PIC) Team or Monroe County's Forensic Intervention Team (FIT).

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Working toward a brighter future

Bronson is sponsoring several bills to increase access, equity and quality of these services, such as:

changing public health regulations to allow mental health professionals to respond to mental health and substance abuse emergencies (A.4697). The bill, known as Daniel's Law, is in response to the death of 41-year-old Daniel Prude, a tragedy that sparked calls for justice and police reform after his interaction with officers was made public.

standardizing the requirements to become a licensed mental health practitioner and modernizing the scope of practice to allow these professionals to diagnose patients (A.6008-B).

allowing personal caregivers to always visit residents of adult care facilities in compliance with federal and state laws and regulations (A.8370).

analyzing the payment rates for certified home health agencies, managed long-term care plans, hospices, long-term home health care programs, licensed home care services agencies and other entities for recruitment, training and retention of direct care workers (A.1060). Changing these rates would help address the critical shortage of home care and hospice workers statewide.

establishing a temporary labor task force for home care and hospice services and occupations and completing a labor market study of these fields to help recruit and retain direct care staff (A.1075).

requiring blanket health insurance policies to provide coverage for outpatient treatment by licensed mental health practitioners (A.1171-A).