



ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATIVE NEWS

ULSTER COUNTY NEWS INFORMATION
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ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN TERRY BERNARDO AND HEALTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ROBERT AIELLO SEND INVITATION TO SENATORS SCHUMER AND GILLIBRAND

Ulster County Legislature Chairman Terry Bernardo and Legislator Robert Aiello (R-Saugerties), Chairman of the Health and Personnel committee sent an invitation to United State Senators Charles Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand to appear before the Ulster County Legislature and/or the Health and Personnel Committee to address the pressing concern of reimbursement rates for health care facilities in Ulster County.

“The inequity in reimbursement rates is having a very real and negative impact on the healthcare system throughout Ulster County”, Bernardo said. “The proposal to close one of the hospitals in the City of Kingston is just the tip of the iceberg.”

Last week, HealthAlliance of the Hudson Valley announced it may be forced to close one of the two Hospitals it operates in the City of Kingston because of financial problems.

“It is having a negative impact on every aspect of health care,” Aiello agreed, “and we are losing skilled high paying jobs and important health care programs to Dutchess County because they are reimbursed at a significantly higher rate.”

The letter to the Senators states, “Presently hospitals in Dutchess County are receiving the NYC reimbursement rate while hospitals in Ulster County are receiving the “Poughkeepsie” rate – which is in Dutchess County. That simply makes no sense.”

“We hope we can enlist our Senators support to find a remedy that can be enacted to correct this obvious injustice,” Bernardo said.

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