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**LONG-TERM CARE SUFFERS THE UNKINDEST CUTS OF ALL**

*Analysis Indicates Massive Medicaid Cuts for Nursing Home and Assisted Living Care;  
LeadingAge New York Calls on Legislature to Dedicate Federal Relief Funds to Long-Term Care*

The countdown to the start of the New York State fiscal year is now 20 days, and representatives of New York’s not-for-profit and county nursing home providers have released an analysis, as we come upon the *Ides of March*, indicating that in recent years the long-term care sector has been disproportionately impacted by cuts to Medicaid, while other sectors such as hospitals, managed care and pharmacy providers have felt more modest contraction.

More specifically, for a three-year cycle beginning with the 2018-19 fiscal year, long-term care providers, those who are serving the most seriously ill, for the longest period of time, have seen Medicaid support cut by more than \$1 billion, cuts about 2.5 times larger than those imposed individually upon hospitals, managed care and pharmaceutical benefits programs.

Fiscal Year	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	Aggregate Cut
Long-Term Care/Managed LTC	-138.69	-383.68	-190.22	-303.73	-1016.32
Hospital	53.76	77.29	-319	-274.36	-462.31
Pharmaceutical Benefits Program	-41.4	-115.48	-131.8	-30.8	-319.48

James W. Clyne Jr., President/CEO of LeadingAge New York, paraphrasing the well-known Shakespearean line from *Julius Caesar*, said, “The long-term care sector has repeatedly suffered the unkindest cuts of all. It is simply nonsensical to review a state budget that continues to weaken the long-term care sector when it is arguably at its most vulnerable following a year of devastating sickness and tragic deaths.”

LeadingAge New York also notes that during the pandemic, the cost of caring for those in nursing homes and assisted living skyrocketed due to state-mandated workforce testing, shortages and inflated prices of Personal Protective Equipment and hazard pay and other supports for staff.

“Other states added funding to nursing homes and other long-term care providers to meet the increased costs of pandemic response,” added Clyne.

“The long-term care sector needs investment, not neglect,” said Clyne. “You cannot look at the series of cuts that have taken place and be surprised that the fastest-growing segments of the population are over the age of 65 and 85, the funds are being slashed and the sector is on the verge of collapse.”

LeadingAge New York is calling on the Legislature to dedicate federal relief funds for long-term care to stabilize it during the COVID recovery and prepare to meet the challenges of a rapidly growing senior population.

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