

	<p>5. A3706-A. Allows increased use of simulation up to 30% in nursing education.</p> <p>6. A. 6275-A – Fair Medical Debt Reporting Act to not include medical debt on credit reports. Medical debt major is a common cause of bankruptcy. Several other states have done this. National level effort as well.</p> <p>7. S211 – Clean Slate Act expunges the criminal record of certain non-violent offenders after a period of time with no further violations. Other states have done this.</p> <p>8. A6798 – bans the sale of sodium and nitrate and nitrite to those under the age of 21. It is apparently used for suicide.</p> <p><u>Among Bills that NYSPHA supported, the Governor vetoed</u></p> <p>1. A.5960 – Taskforce to identify evidence-based solutions to reduce adverse childhood experiences (ACES). Reason: Gov’s office says we know the causes for ACES already, we cannot afford a Task Force. Gov. office reached out to NYSPHA for comment on bill again this year, and Gus answered that we NYSPHA supported it last year and saying you veto it again, at least show you are doing SOMETHING (paraphrased).</p> <p>2. S629A – Provided additional duties of the community gardens taskforce to determine if community gardens on public property are eligible for designation as Critical Environmental Areas. Not sure reason for veto.</p> <p><u>Bills NYSPHA supported that didn’t pass the legislature</u></p> <p>1. A3281 – Expand Absentee voting (without needing an excuse)</p> <p>2. S4364 – Healthier food guidelines for state facilities (state purchases much food. This is repeatedly not acted on by Leg)</p> <p>3. S2127-A. - To establish emission reductions plans for mega-warehouse facilities.</p> <p>4. S1531. - Opt-out Reporting of adult vaccinations to the state immunization registry.</p> <p>5. S2441 – Ban on flavored tobacco products including menthol</p> <p>Now in 2nd year of 2 year legislative term. These 5 bills could still go somewhere, are still active bills. They may need to be referred back to committee per Crissy from NYSACHO.</p>	
<p>PAC Update: Actions since the last meeting, and related updates</p>	<p><u>State/local:</u> Gus reviewed recent state/local actions that are listed on the NYSPHA website at https://nyspha.org/NYS-Policy-and-Advocacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12/13/2023 – NYSPHA signed on to a letter to the Governor urging her to sign into law S.599-A (Salazar) same as A.1707-A (D. Rosenthal) to increase transparency around prescription drug prices. She did sign it. • 	<p>If members hear about other opportunities for PAC to support, or alerts to share, or if you hear of mentions of NYSPHA advocacy positions, let Gus know.</p>

	<p><u>Federal:</u></p> <p>Gus reviewed recent federal actions that are listed on the NYSPHA website at https://nyspha.org/federal-policy-and-advocacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 01/08/2024 - NYSPHA signed on to a letter sponsored by the Coalition on Human Needs urging the Congressional leadership to assure that Congress passes a final FY2024 budget and not a Continuing Resolution that would result in drastic funding cuts for non-defense discretionary funding. • 01/03/2024 - NYSPHA signed on to a letter sponsored by Action on Smoking and Health urging United Nations member states to include anti-tobacco provisions in the next UN Pact for the Future. • 12/20/2023 – NYSPHA signed on to a letter sponsored by the CDC Coalitions to the Congressional Leadership urging that they pass a FY 2024 federal budget including \$11.581 billion for CDC. • 12/19/2023 - NYSPHA signed on to a letter sponsored by the Friends of HRSA to the Congressional Leadership urging that they pass a FY 2024 federal budget including \$10.5 billion for HRSA. 	<p>If you have a bill of interest, also let Gus know.</p>
<p>Federal/State Budget Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal budget – we need Congress to pass a budget and not CR to prevent drastic PH cuts • State-of-the-State high points (you can download it here: https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochuls-2024-state-state-our-new-york-our-future) - Maternal mortality/Perinatal health initiative new funding will be in proposed budget. Draft budget may be released next week. • Suicide prevention • Legislative Budget Hearing – anticipated in February. Crissy from NYSACHO then said it may be much earlier, perhaps a week after draft budget release. Health hearings may be early in cycle: per heads up from external lobbyist, may be Jan 22-23. Gus will prepare something earlier than planned initially because of this. 	
<p>NYSACHO Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crissy: 2 PH department specific changes in regs - thrilled about carve outs from licensure certification requirements • Under Article 28 for clinical services, revised and amended PH regulations for a limited PH services clinic. chapter amendment implementation in 2 years • no longer will require PH depts to be licensed to make limited core PH visits such as limited MCH or TB care coordination or lead poisoning coordination visits. • Also working closely with state and Env. Health in regard to dealing with commercial vaping violations. Draft bill, but not introduced yet 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes in local Boards of Health physician specific requirements, currently says 2 physicians required. This will be amended to allow other practitioners such as NPs, or physicians from out of county who do primary or substantial work in the county. LHDs were having trouble finding enough physicians for the BOHs. • Looking at leg to get community health assessments regulations to be consistent with NYS PH prevention agenda • State of the State also included: swimming safety and access, extreme weather and flooding, adding coverage for A/Cs under essential plan, safeguarding drinking water, proposal for expanding coverage for ACES screening for Medicaid eligible adults, expanding training and access for workforce shortages (NYSACHO wants to ensure PH workforce is included), healthcare scope language, for LHDs, and lots more: see actual wording of State of the State address for more • State got approval on 1115 waiver, details of implementation not yet clear • An intern from U Albany SPH starting next week, and a remote student from Emory-Rollins Univ, who is a law student. Very exciting to have this support. 	
<p>Climate Change Special Interest Group (SPIG) update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Susan Harris: State of the State was very disappointing on climate issues. “Gov acted like there was no climate emergency”. The \$1 billion that was requested was not mentioned. No mention of the Superfund Act. The Just Energy Transition Act was not mentioned. “We have a lot of work to do”. “PH effects of Climate Change need more attention.” • HEAT Act was supported: cap of 6% of income for utilities. Rules and regs will be updated to stop supporting fracking. • Namita has joined the Climate special interest group and is going to do a literature review • Youth Climate Resource Guide almost ready to distribute. Susan, Gus and NYSPHA leadership had a call with the Health Commissioner who agreed to review it carefully and to give distribution suggestions to get it out through the state. He is a pediatrician so seemed to have a special interest in what youth can do. For more information, contact Susan. • CRETF Climate and Resilience Education Task Force: have worked on a bill S.278A: to amend education law to require climate education Pre-K through HS. Modeled on NJ curriculum. • Lobby days Jan 23, Jan 30, Feb 6 in Albany. Susan will be there. Gus will distribute information to group. • The CRETF (Climate and Resilience Education Task Force) intergenerational Policy Group worked with State Senator Andrew Gounardes to rewrite and reintroduce Bill S.278A. It amends Education Law to establish a course of instruction, learning expectations, and teacher training on climate change for all public schools, pre-K through high school, across all disciplines. • Jan 19 12-1 next meeting of Climate group. Contact Susan for agenda. 	<p>If you want to join the Climate Workgroup contact Susan at sharri6g@gmail.com</p>

<p>Upcoming Advocacy Opportunities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NYSARH Policy Forum mostly on workforce. Wednesday, Jan 17, 2- 4pm. Gus will participate. Mandy said PAC can be invited, so Gus will circulate the info. (NOTE: after the call it was decided that Gus would not participate because the PAC has not had any involvement in healthcare workforce development, recruitment and retention, which are the focuses of the Policy Forum.) • NY Renews Mass Call. Monday, Jan 22, 06:00 PM Gus will circulate registration info. The HEAT act will be discussed. • Park Advocacy Day. Tuesday, Feb 27, in person at the state Capitol Gus will circulate information 	
<p>Bills NYSPHA is supporting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. 4747 International Debt Relief – Melissa has taken the lead with Lucy’s help. • A. 6425 Epinephrine Affordability. Assemblyman O’Donnell requested a memorandum of support. Lucy. After the budget • We will continue to follow and stay on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change Superfund Act • Just Energy Transition Act • HEAT Act • Flavored vape enforcement • S.278A – Requires climate change curriculum for K-12 schools in NYS. • Other Bills of interest to PAC members: we can revisit after budget discussion. 	<p>Let Gus know if you have other bills of interest that you recommend PAC support</p>
<p>Policy Statements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suicide prevention policy statement still in progress. 	
<p>NYC PAC update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New 2-year NYC Council term is beginning. Adrienne Adams was unanimously reelected as Council Speaker on Jan. 3, and they will announce changes in committee leadership/membership at the next Stated Meeting on Jan. 18. CM Rita Joseph is reintroducing the menthol ban bill. • Professor at NYU and Kavitha working on Bill and Melinda Gates grant. Not sure it can be submitted in time. Contact Kavitha for more information. • No next meeting announcement yet. 	<p>If interested in joining or have suggestions for how to increase attendance, contact Kavitha at: kpd2102@gmail.com</p>
<p>Other business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next PAC meeting is Wednesday February 14 	<p>Let Gus know of any issues you want to address with Gov or Legislature.</p>

Attendance Log

Craig Rijkaard	x		x	x	x		x					
Marie Sonia Saint Rose-Bienvil				x		x						
Marc Rosenblatt	-											
Carol Ryan	x			x	x	x	x					
Ashanda Saint Jean	-											
Jean Sale-Shaw	-											
Andréa Sonenberg	x		x		x	x	x					
Marie Sonia	x		x									
Daniel Tam	-											
Muhammed Teks Tekanyi	x		x		x							
Carol Wanyo	-						x					
Patti Wukovits	x											
Namrata Yadav	-											
Rick Yang												
Moria Byrne Zaaloff	-											
Jamie Zelig	x			x		x	x					
Lucy Zheng (intern)							x					