

1 **2020 NYSAC Legislative Conference**
2 **NYSAC Standing Committee on Children with Special Needs**
3 **Resolution #3**

4 **Resolution Urging New York State to Permanently Extend the Medicaid**
5 **Managed Care Carveout and Expand the Grant Funding Pool for School-**
6 **Based Health Centers**

7 **WHEREAS**, 20 Counties and New York City operate 255 school-based health centers
8 across the state, serving over 200,000 students; and

9 **WHEREAS**, school-based health centers provide cost-effective comprehensive primary
10 medical care, dental, vision and mental health services at no out-of-pocket cost to all
11 students, regardless of insurance status; and

12 **WHEREAS**, school-based health centers increase access to health care, prevent
13 unnecessary hospitalizations, and reduce emergency room visits; and

14 **WHEREAS**, school-based health centers are a vehicle for eliminating racial, ethnic,
15 and economic health disparities in the communities that they serve and foster health
16 equity in low-income communities and communities of color; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the carveout for all school-based health centers from a move to
18 mandatory Medicaid Managed Care health care delivery model expires in January 2021;
19 and

20 **WHEREAS**, the state fiscal year 18 budget reduced State grant funding to school-based
21 health centers by 20 percent statewide, and over 60 percent for individual school-based
22 health center sponsors; and

23 **WHEREAS**, the state fiscal year 2020 budget restored nearly all of these cuts, but
24 previous funding cuts and grant pool consolidations have left school-based health
25 centers operating with less funds than in prior years; and

26 **WHEREAS**, some school-based health centers have been forced to close due to
27 financial constraints; and

28 **WHEREAS**, without a permanent carveout from Medicaid managed care, inadequate
29 managed care capitation rates will result in funding shortfalls and leave many school-
30 based health centers' costs uncovered; and

31 **WHEREAS**, it is estimated that the transition to Medicaid Managed Care will result in
32 a loss of over \$16 million in funds to these centers, which could force a reduction in
33 essential services, and the closure of these vital service locations in the neighborhoods
34 that need them the most; and

35 **WHEREAS**, in the event of closure of school-based health centers, in order to ensure
36 continued provision of health services mandated by law, counties and New York City

1 would be required, at a substantial cost, to provide nurses and equivalent staff at every
2 school.

3 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the New York State Association of
4 Counties (NYSAC) calls on the State to maintain their commitment to school-based
5 health centers, permanently extend their carveout from Medicaid Managed Care, and
6 maintain funding levels in the grant pool at fiscal year 2020 levels; and

7 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be sent to the counties
8 of New York State encouraging member counties to enact similar resolutions; and

9 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the New York State Association of Counties shall
10 forward copies of this resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, the New York State
11 Legislature and all others deemed necessary.