



Contact: Tracy Munford
(212) 614-5538 (office)
(646) 483-6804 (cell)

CSS STATEMENT ON THE HEALTH CARE REFORM LAW

Statement by David R. Jones, Esq, President & CEO of Community Service Society

New York, NY, June 8, 2010 - I commend Governor Paterson and the New York State Legislature for passing a bill that once again enables the State Department of Insurance to approve health insurance premium hikes on policies for individuals and small groups before they go into effect. As a member of the Health Care for All New York (HCFANY) coalition, the Community Service Society has long advocated for the provision of prior approval of health care premium increases. Although federal health reform has passed, the affordability of health care remains a major hurdle for New Yorkers. Between 2000 and 2009, health insurance premiums in New York State increased by 92%, while median wages increased only by 14%. Affordability is a key element in the planned expansion of health care coverage, especially for low-income families.

For 160 years, the [Community Service Society of New York](#) has been the leading voice on behalf of low-income New Yorkers and continues to advocate for the economic security of the working poor in the nation's largest city.