



NEW YORK  
**ALLIANCE FOR  
INCLUSION & INNOVATION**

## **Memorandum in Support S.6277 (Mannion) and A.7690 (Abinanti)**

An act to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to including certain data in the statewide comprehensive plan for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities

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The New York Alliance for Inclusion & Innovation (NY Alliance) supports legislation requiring the NYS Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) five-year Comprehensive Plan to include specific Medicaid and other demographic information. The information outlined in S.6277 and A. 7690 is a matter of public record and should be made available to a wider array of stakeholders through OPWDD's 5.07 Plan.

The NY Alliance is a statewide association representing nearly 175 not-for-profit provider agencies serving people with disabilities. The NY Alliance envisions a society where people with disabilities are contributing citizens with equal rights and the ability to live full, productive and meaningful lives.

Section 5.07 of the Mental Hygiene Law requires OPWDD and its sister agencies to outline statewide priorities based on the needs of the people it serves. In an era when the civil and human rights of people are at the very forefront of morality, it is only appropriate that New Yorkers understand how public funds are *and are not* supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities by age, race, ethnicity, primary language spoken.

It is also helpful for all stakeholders to understand how federal, state and local Medicaid funds are spent in the system and therefore the provision in S.6277 and A.7690 to require reporting of average Medicaid expenditures on services is important.

The NY Alliance supports S.6277 and A.7690.

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Issued: May 1, 2021

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