

VETO MESSAGE - No. 243

TO THE ASSEMBLY:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, the following bill:

Assembly Bill Number 2785-A, entitled:

"AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to synchronization of multiple prescriptions"

NOT APPROVED

This bill would require the Department of Health to establish a program within Medicaid and Medicaid managed care that would allow prescription synchronization if agreed to by the patient, prescriber, and pharmacist for the treatment of chronic illness or chronic conditions.

While I find the intent of this bill to be laudable in its effort to maximize convenience and compliance, this bill would require the expenditure of funds that are unbudgeted and should be considered during budget discussions. Furthermore, per the Fiscal Year 2020 enacted budget, Medicaid managed care plans are required to develop and implement medication adherence programs for people with chronic health conditions. Strategies for such programs may include medication synchronization, and the Department of Health has been working with managed care plans to develop and implement such strategies. These efforts should be aligned with synchronization for participants in commercial group insurance, and this may necessitate further changes in the Fiscal Year 2021 budget.

The bill is disapproved.

(signed) ANDREW M. CUOMO
