

Press



Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: **Hon. Jay Hood, Jr.**, Vice Chairman (845) 638-5751
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Legislature Committee to Hold Discussion on Medicaid and Welfare Programs

New City, NY (March 6, 2015)– The Rockland County Legislature's Budget and Finance Committee will hold a discussion of County-administered Medicaid and Welfare programs at the upcoming meeting of March 10, 2015. The discussion, sponsored by Vice Chairman of the Legislature Jay Hood, Jr., will focus on qualifying factors, administration of the programs' services and fraud detection.

Medicaid is federal health program that provides services to eligible low-income adults, families, children, and people with disabilities. Medicaid is administered by states, according to federal requirements and is funded jointly by states and the federal government, with exception of New York and Michigan, where local county shares are required by those state governments. New York requires its counties to pay 50% of the state's share. For Rockland County that amounts to \$73,600,000 which equates to 70% of the County property tax dollars collected.

Legislator Hood said, "Most residents are aware that this is one of the largest expenses for County government and I believe there is much misinformation out there. I think it is important to have a fact-finding discussion with State and County officials. I believe we will all learn a lot about the Medicaid program and I encourage residents to come to this meeting to listen to the discussion."

Budget and Finance Committee Chairman Michael Grant and Legislator Hood have invited the following State and County personnel to the meeting to inform the committee and respond to questions:

Tom Meyer, NYS DOH Acting Medicaid Inspector General
Dan Coyne, NYS DOH Deputy Medicaid Inspector for Investigations
Bill Schwartz, NYS DOH, Public Relations, Office of Medicaid Inspector General
Monica Mahaffey, NYS DOH, Director Public Relations
Rockland County District Attorney Thomas Zugibe
Rockland County Commissioner of Social Services Susan Sherwood
Rockland County Commissioner Stephen DeGroat

The Budget and Finance Committee will meet at 7:15 pm in the Legislature's chambers, 11 New Hempstead Rd., New City, NY. All legislature committee meetings are open to the public and attendance is encouraged. To obtain information on committee meeting schedules and agendas, please visit www.rocklandgov.com, click on County Legislature and follow link to Committee Agendas or call (845) 638-5100. All agendas are subject to change.

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