

Resolution Title: Resolution to Reduce Localities' Medicaid and Education Expenses
Submitted by: Submitted by Professional Staff Congress/CUNY

WHEREAS, Medicaid costs are shared by federal, state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, Medicaid costs have increased dramatically due to the costs of nursing home care and prescription drugs; and

WHEREAS, localities have fewer sources of revenue than either the state or federal government; and

WHEREAS, many states pay up to 50% of Medicaid with the federal and local government each paying 25% of Medicaid expenses; and

WHEREAS, NYS pays only 25% with localities paying 50% of Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, this burden undermines localities' ability to adequately provide for other local needs, including education; and

WHEREAS, the state has also consistently reduced its share of educational costs, transferring those costs to middle-income taxpayers with increased property taxes, user fees and tuition hikes; and

WHEREAS, the state must commit to raising sufficient revenue to adequately provide for the health, education and safety of its residents and avoid tax cuts that put these at risk; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that NYSUT work with local networks to pressure the state to pay up to 50% of Medicaid, to be phased in; and be it further

RESOLVED, that localities be mandated to apply the benefit of this cost transfer to cover its vital needs such as education and healthcare; and be it further

RESOLVED, that NYSUT continue to work with the Fiscal Policy Institute and other public policy analysts to advocate for sound revenue policies, including reforming the Rockefeller drug laws; and be it further

RESOLVED, that sound revenue policies include state investment in human capital and public infrastructure.