

**Resolution 1 –Submitted by RC 15/16**  
**Behavioral Health**

Whereas, mental and/or behavioral health is as important as medical health; and 1

Whereas, there is a documented mental and/or behavioral health crisis that has affected so many 2 families and workplaces; and 3

Whereas, many of our members have not had adequate medical coverage for mental and/or 4 behavioral health diagnosis and treatment; and 5

Whereas, high co-pays and deductible levels are making mental and/or behavioral health services 6 unaffordable; and 7

Whereas, many public and private insurance plans do not provide for adequate mental and/or 8 behavioral coverage; and 9

Whereas, both retirees and in-service members see the effects of this underinsurance; and 10

Whereas, members wish to encourage improvement of medical coverage for mental and/or 11 behavioral health for all those who need it; therefore be it 12

RESOLVED, that NYSUT will seek legislation that will require medical insurance plans provide 13 adequate and accessible coverage for mental and/or behavioral health diagnosis and treatment 14 both for members and for all NYS residents; and be it further 15

RESOLVED, that NYSUT assist its locals with educating its members that they have the right to 16 equitable access to mental and behavioral services; and be it further 17

RESOLVED, that NYSUT will encourage its local to bargain the inclusion of adequate and 18 accessible mental and/or behavioral health coverage as part of a local's medical package. 19