



**Mount
Sinai**

*Selikoff Centers for
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April 17, 2026

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor, New York State
Executive Chamber, Capitol Building
Albany, NY 11247

Dear Governor Hochul,

On behalf of the Selikoff Centers for Occupational Health at Mount Sinai, a clinic within the New York State Occupational Health Clinic Network (OHCN), I write to express our support for the underlying goal of Universal Authorization to expand authorized workers' compensation providers statewide. We encourage the Governor and Legislature to include such a proposal in the SFY2027 budget that will improve access to care, but also protect patients from any adverse unintended consequences.

Universal Authorization has the potential to meaningfully improve access to care for injured and ill workers, particularly in light of ongoing provider shortages. Successful implementation, however, will depend on adequate provider education, administrative support, and system safeguards. As an OHCN clinic with extensive experience navigating New York State Workers' Compensation requirements, treatment guidelines, and care coordination, the Selikoff Centers are well positioned to support this transition.

We stand ready to assist with training and education for new providers to promote high-quality, guideline-informed care. We also emphasize the importance of addressing persistent challenges related to reimbursement, authorization delays, and claim denials, which remain significant barriers to provider participation.

We support efforts to expand access to medical care for New York's injured workers. With appropriate safeguards, universal authorization has the potential to improve outcomes. We welcome the opportunity to collaborate further to support successful implementation for NYS injured workers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Crane".

Michael Crane, MD, MPH
Medical Director

