



STATE OF NEW YORK  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER  
ALBANY 12224

VETO # 86

December 13, 2024

TO THE ASSEMBLY:

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

Assembly Bill Number 9718-B, entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to requiring hospitals and residential health care facilities to implement a pressure ulcer prevention program”

NOT APPROVED

This bill would require hospitals and nursing homes to implement a pressure ulcer program, require the Department of Health (DOH) to evaluate its reimbursement policies in regard to such programs within 120 days, require DOH to report on the current reimbursement options available to reduce the incidence of pressure ulcers, and by April 1, 2025 establish a Pressure Ulcer Center of Excellence within DOH.

Current laws and requirements around pressure ulcers are robust. Decubitus ulcers are required to be reported as a nursing quality indicator. Medicaid makes rate adjustments to providers based on their performance of quality indicators, including pressure ulcer quality of care. Nurse aide training programs in nursing homes must include classroom and clinical training with a curriculum that includes the prevention of decubitus ulcers. Hospitals and nursing homes are required to have quality assurance committees and programs, which address complaints related to pressure ulcers. Given the robust existing protections to prevent pressure ulcers, this legislation would pose an unnecessary administrative burden on DOH at a significant cost that is not accounted for in the State's financial plan.

Therefore, I am constrained to veto this bill.

The bill is disapproved.

*Ruth Hochul*