

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 4, 2024

## COMPTROLLER SCANLON RELEASES ANNUAL REPORT SHOWING INCREASED MEMBERSHIP AND SAVINGS FOR STATE PARTNERSHIP PLAN

Plan provides high-quality health insurance to more than 60,000 teachers, police, firefighters, and municipal workers and their families

(HARTFORD, CT) – Comptroller Sean Scanlon today announced the publication of the annual Partnership Plan Report for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024, providing the most up-to-date financial outlook of the health plan that serves more than 60,000 teachers, police officers, firefighters, and other municipal employees and their families across the state.

Over the past year, 11 new groups joined the Partnership Plan (Plan), adding 6,300 additional employees and dependents. In addition, the medical loss ratio (MLR)—the percent of premiums the health plan spends on medical and pharmacy claims—has decreased to 93.3%. This represents a continued decline since Comptroller Scanlon took office in 2023, when the MLR was at 98%, and one of the lowest MLRs since the Plan began being offered in 2017.

"This year, the Partnership Plan added thousands of new members and strengthened our focus on proactive care and cost-saving measures. These efforts demonstrate our commitment to helping towns and cities manage budgets while also prioritizing employee health and wellness," **said Comptroller Scanlon.** "While the healthcare market remains challenging at times, the Partnership Plan has provided efficiency and predictability when local leaders need it most. My office remains dedicated to continued refinement and expansion of this critical resource to meet the needs of Connecticut's municipal workforce."

As <u>forecasted</u> in March, renewal rates saw minimal average increases of 2% for active employees and 3% for non-Medicare retirees, falling far below increases imposed on municipalities and boards of education by private insurers.

In FY 2024, the Plan focused on more engagement with its members, including proactive communications on preventative care and resources the plan provides, as well as assistance navigating the plan. The Plan also prioritized value-based reimbursements and strategic partnerships to lower costs. The Office of the State Comptroller's contract with <u>PrudentRx</u>, for example, saved the plan approximately \$6 million over the past fiscal year and reduced member cost shares by approximately \$400,000.

The report also forecasts future impacts to the Plan's fiscal health. Plan rates adjusted by counties were implemented five years ago and will be factored into Plan renewals for FY 2025 and 2026, and rates will continue to be adjusted every five years.

Additionally, <u>as Comptroller Scanlon announced in April</u> the state has procured a new pharmacy benefit manager contract with CVS Caremark that is anticipated to save the state \$50 million over the next year alone between the state employee plan and Partnership Plan.

<u>The Connecticut Partnership Plan</u>, established under Public Act 15-93 and launched in January 2016, offers non-state public employers the choice to participate in the state employee health plan. It currently provides top-quality health care benefits at reasonable rates to 167 groups including over 60,000 municipal, boards of education, and other non-state public employees and their families in Connecticut.

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