

Dear Mr. Scott Cohen, Members of the Nassau Retirees Legal Fund, and all Nassau County Retirees,

I want to begin by thanking you all for your years of service to our community. Nassau County runs on the dedication of public servants like you. The work you did kept our communities safe, our streets maintained, our schools open, and our families supported. You earned every bit of the retirement security you were promised.

I share your frustration with the uncertainty surrounding retiree health benefits. When someone chooses to spend a career in public service, often for less pay than the private sector, they do so with the knowledge that their pension and healthcare benefits are part of the deal. To walk back those promises after the fact is not just deeply unfair, it breaks the trust of the very people who made Nassau County work. As such, I strongly support preserving access to coverage equal to or better than the NYSHIP Empire Plan as an option for retirees.

No one who gave decades to this county should be left wondering whether they can keep the health coverage they planned their lives around. At a time when the cost of living is climbing, the last thing our retirees should face is new financial stress or the loss of trusted coverage.

The bottom line is simple: Nassau must keep its word. You did your part. Now it's the County's turn to honor its obligations and restore trust in local government. Thank you again for everything you have done for our community, and for continuing to stand up for yourselves and for every future public servant who deserves to know that Nassau County keeps its word.

Sincerely,

Alec Fischthal

Ale Jisethtul

Candidate for Nassau County Legislature, District 7