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NEWS RELEASE



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NEW YORK HEALTH PLAN ASSOCIATION ON "NEW YORK HEALTH ACT" SINGLE PAYER BILL

Statement by Eric Linzer, president and CEO

"Revised bill fundamentally flawed, too costly for New Yorkers"

"We believe that every New Yorker deserves coverage for high-quality, affordable health care, and the work of our member health plans in implementing the Affordable Care Act and the state's Medicaid Redesign program is a major reason that New York's has been able to insure more than 95% of state residents.

"The New York Health Act would undue that progress and the revisions to the bill do not address its fundamental flaws — it will result in massive new taxes and provide fewer choices over doctors, treatment and coverage for all New Yorkers.

"Last year's independent analysis by RAND Corporation for the New York State Health Foundation estimated more than \$139 billion in new taxes would be needed to fund the New York Health Act, provided that the state received the necessary federal waivers and would be able to regulate provider rates and drug prices. While failing to address those issues, the revised bill further expands the services it will cover without answering the essential question: How much will this cost New York residents and employers?

"Rather than continuing to devote attention to a system that ultimately will lead to higher taxes, limit access and restrict options, the focus needs to be on efforts to expand coverage, address costs, and improve quality without disrupting current coverage options for employers and consumers."

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