



Healthcare Association
of New York State

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:
WILLIAM VAN SLYKE
(518) 431-7770

HANYS: GOVERNOR’S EXECUTIVE BUDGET PLAN IS “ANTI-PUBLIC POLICY”

\$1 Billion in Health Cuts Will Kill Jobs, Eliminate Critical Health Care Services

Statement by HANYS’ President Daniel Sisto

ALBANY, N.Y. — “The Governor’s proposal to cut another \$1 billion in health care funding is not public policy; it is anti-public policy, especially when one considers that 29 hospitals and more than 50 nursing homes have closed in the ten past years.

“The Governor’s actions compel our members to choose between two unfortunate courses of action: Seek higher payments from private insurance companies to make up for government underpayments, and/or continue the growing pattern of service reductions and job layoffs that are the legacy of the last five budget-cutting actions that have occurred in just the last two years.

“Over the past two years, we have seen continued hospital and nursing home closures, we have seen cancer treatment centers and well child clinics close, and we have seen patients wait longer and travel further distances to access needed care.

“Over the same period, we have seen thousands of health care jobs lost across the state, hitting hardest those communities where the local hospital is the largest employer and an economic anchor.

“Sound economic policy would protect businesses and save jobs. The Governor’s anti-economic policy will deepen the impact of the recession by driving up employer insurance costs and causing more private sector and health care sector job losses.

“Sound public health policy would preserve the health care safety net that protects the growing ranks of uninsured and unemployed. The Governor’s anti-public health policy would further undermine and impede the ability of health providers to respond to the growing demand for care.

“The Governor has stated on numerous occasions his desire to improve the state’s economy and reform the health care system. His action today does not match his rhetoric. This budget will undermine both his stated goals and subject a great many families to grave economic and health status risks.”

The Healthcare Association of New York State (HANYS) is the only statewide hospital and continuing care association in New York State, representing more than 550 non-profit and public hospitals, nursing homes, home care agencies, and other health care organizations.