



Healthcare Association
of New York State

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HANYS TO LEGISLATIVE LEADERS: GOVERNOR'S BUDGET WOULD KILL JOBS AND ELIMINATE HEALTH CARE SERVICES ACROSS THE STATE

ALBANY, N.Y. — The Governor's proposed \$1 billion in proposed health care provider taxes and cuts would cause mass job losses and eliminate necessary health care services in communities across the state, said Healthcare Association of New York State (HANY) President Daniel Sisto in testimony today before a Joint Legislative Hearing of the Senate Finance and Assembly Ways and Means Committees.

Mr. Sisto warned lawmakers that the Governor's proposed taxes and cuts, which follow six previous rounds of budget actions that targeted providers, would harm their constituents' access to care and stymie economic recovery.

In urging legislators to reject the Governor's proposed taxes and cuts on health care providers, Mr. Sisto focused on the following key points:

- **The fragility of the health care system.** Health care providers have been weakened by repeated disproportionate budget actions over the last two years, totaling \$4 billion in taxes and cuts.
- **Loss of jobs and services.** To cope with mounting taxes and cuts, health care providers have been forced to cut needed services and thousands of jobs in communities across New York State.
- **This is bad public policy.** Health care providers have already done more than their share to help address state budget shortfalls. Taxing and cutting providers is bad public policy.
- **Health care facility closures.** Fifty-one nursing homes and 29 hospitals have closed since 2000, forcing New York residents to travel farther to receive needed health care services.
- **Reforming health care.** The health care system needs reform, but the implementation of the state's multiple "reform" initiatives has caused disruption, not improvement. True structural reform of our health care system is critical.

Mr. Sisto's testimony is available at <http://www.hanys.org/communications/testimony>.

To find out how the proposed health care provider taxes and cuts will impact the hospitals in your community, and to urge your legislators to reject Governor Paterson's proposal, visit <http://helpyourhospital.org>.

The Healthcare Association of New York State (HANY) 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.