



Healthcare Association
of New York State

For Immediate Release
December 13, 2010

For More Information:
William Van Slyke
wvanslyk@hanys.org
(518) 431-7700

HANYS Responds to Siena Poll That Found a Majority of New Yorkers Prefer Increasing Taxes Over Cuts to Education and Health Care

ALBANY, NY — Today's [Siena College Research Institute poll](#) found that a majority of New Yorkers would rather increase taxes on the wealthy than withstand additional cuts to health care and education funding. This is the second major poll in the last two months that found voters opposed more state funding cuts in these key areas.

Sixty-eight percent of the registered voters surveyed said they opposed reducing state aid to Medicaid and health care by \$1 billion to help close the state's \$9 billion deficit in next year's budget.

Healthcare Association of New York State (HANYS) President Daniel Sisto commented:

“Once again, the poll results clearly indicate that the public understands the importance of protecting access to health care services in their communities. New Yorkers recognize that you cannot keep cutting health care funding and expect the same level of care. We are hopeful that the next Governor will harness the public's support for health care to fundamentally redesign our health care system.

“HANYS assembled a task force of our members that made significant recommendations addressing the core problems that plague the health care system and drive spending. To truly redesign the Medicaid program, reimbursement must incentivize care management, especially for the 20% of the Medicaid population that accounts for a staggering 80% of all Medicaid spending.

“Repeated across-the-board reimbursement cuts have weakened our health care system and imperiled care in communities across the state, but have not addressed the system's fundamental systemic problems. HANYS stands ready to work with the new Governor to address these fundamental problems. More across-the-board cuts are not a solution. Significant redesign is the only approach that will yield a less costly and sustainable system.”

[The Healthcare Association of New York State \(HANYS\)](#) is the only statewide voice for New York's health care provider community, representing more than 550 not-for-profit health care systems, hospitals, nursing homes, and home care agencies. No other organization can speak more comprehensively on behalf of the state's entire health care delivery system.