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November 9, 2022

Sarah S. Benson
Deputy Commissioner
New York State Education Department
Office of the Professions
89 Washington Avenue, 2nd Floor
EB West Wing
Albany, New York 12234

Sent via email: regcomments@nysed.gov

Re: EDU-39-23-00013-EP-Requirements for Restricted Licenses for Clinical Laboratory Technologists in Molecular Testing

Dear Deputy Commissioner Benson:

On behalf of the Healthcare Association of New York State's member nonprofit and public hospitals, nursing homes, home care agencies and other healthcare organizations, I write to extend HANYS' support of the above-referenced emergency proposed regulations related to molecular testing.

Executive Order 4 and its expansion of molecular testing during the COVID-19 pandemic allowed our hospital laboratories to rapidly adapt to meet the critical needs of our patients and policymakers during the pandemic. These flexibilities eased clinical laboratory workforce staffing shortages when there was a greater need for testing and when clinical laboratories were already struggling to provide round-the-clock testing.

With the expiration of EO 4, HANYS members were concerned they would need to limit weekend and overnight laboratory testing.

HANYS and our partner associations advocated for the legislation that expanded the molecular testing restricted license and we support the emergency proposed regulations as written.

We appreciate SED's continued support of the healthcare workforce. As always, we are ready to assist as needed.

Sincerely,



Karen Roach
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs and Rural Health