

**A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY  
LEGISLATORS RATH AND MILLS**

**Re: Opposition to Single Payer Healthcare System in New York State**

**WHEREAS**, the creation of a single-payer healthcare system has long been part of the New York State Legislature's agenda; and

**WHEREAS**, a state-run, tax-funded health plan has historically been approved by the Assembly and has been only a few votes short of passage in the Senate; and

**WHEREAS**, this honorable body wishes to express its opposition to the imposition of a single-payer program in New York State; and

**WHEREAS**, this honorable body does not dispute that all people deserve a basic level of health care as a right. However, any consideration of a single-payer system needs to fully vet the associated expenses that come with its implementation; and

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of such a program in New York State is estimated to require an additional \$139 billion in new taxes by 2022 according to the Empire Center for Public Policy, which is an increase of 156% over New York's current revenue levels; and

**WHEREAS**, it has further been estimated that single-payer healthcare will permanently eliminate 150,000 jobs from the New York economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed single-payer healthcare legislation includes at least two new taxes; one for non-wage income, like investment income, and an additional payroll tax, jointly imposed on the employer and the employee, to cover the expense; and

**WHEREAS**, a change to single-payer healthcare in New York will only serve to exacerbate the anti-business climate that already exists. New York is already ranked as the 3<sup>rd</sup> worst tax climate for businesses, has the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest taxed state for individual income, and the state with the 4<sup>th</sup> highest property tax burden; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Cuomo did not even mention the possibility of single-payer healthcare in his state of the state address, presumably because he is aware of the both the financial implications and the decrease in quality of care when single-payer systems are implemented; and

**WHEREAS**, health insurance, by its very nature, is an intimate subject and coverage decisions should be left to the individual. The decision to make state government responsible for the healthcare options of all residents will only lead to bloat of the healthcare system, opportunities for governmental mismanagement, and increased wait times for medical attention; and

**WHEREAS**, in order for single-payer systems to be effective the system must be overseen by the government and managed by additional government bureaucrats, which increases the size and expense of an already oversized government; and

**WHEREAS**, in Canada and the United Kingdom, who have both implemented single-payer systems, the wait times for patients can often stretch past six months for approved but non-emergency surgeries; and

**WHEREAS**, the idea of universal healthcare coverage for all residents is certainly laudable; however, the increased government size and cost combined with the heightened bureaucratization of healthcare, therefore limiting treatment decisions and options and the lowering of the quality of care, should induce our state representatives to pause and consider other options before voting for a single-payer healthcare in New York State.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that this honorable body hereby expresses its opposition to the imposition of a single-payer healthcare system in New York, and opposition to the associated decrease in service quality and speed, and the attendant tax increases that must inevitably follow; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Andrew Cuomo, the Western New York Delegation to the New York State Legislature and any other party deemed necessary and proper.

Fiscal Impact: Positive for New York Taxpayers