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## NEWS RELEASE

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## NEW YORK HEALTH PLAN ASSOCIATION ON ASSOCIATION HEALTH PLAN RULE Statement by Eric Linzer, HPA President & CEO

"While the final rule does not appear to displace state laws regulating insurance, we remain concerned about the impact the federal rules on Association Health Plans (AHPs) could have on the New York marketplace. As we noted in our March comments to the Department of Labor, AHPs have the potential to fragment the individual and small group markets, resulting in higher health insurance premiums for consumers and employers.

"We are committed to working closely with Governor Cuomo and the Department of Financial Services to ensure the continued stability of our individual and small group markets and avoid any uncertainty in the marketplace so that the final rule does not undermine our state's efforts in achieving the goal of universal coverage."

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The New York Health Plan Association represents 28 managed care health plans that provide comprehensive health care services to nearly 8 million New Yorkers.