

41 State Street • Suite 900 Albany, NY 12207 518.462.2293 www.nyhpa.org

NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACT: <u>Leslie S. Moran</u> (518) 462-2293 (518) 588-6655 (cell)

NEW YORK HEALTH PLAN ASSOCIATION ON "NEW YORK HEALTH ACT" SINGLE PAYER BILL

Statement by Eric Linzer, president and CEO

"The New York Health Act would establish a government-run system that eliminates all private insurance and is the wrong approach for New York. Revisions to the bill fail to address its fundamental flaws – it will result in <u>massive new taxes</u>, <u>provide fewer choices</u> over doctors and treatment, and <u>threaten the quality of care</u> for every resident.

"Every New Yorker deserves coverage for high-quality, affordable health care. Measures included in the recently adopted State Budget will provide health care coverage to undocumented residents and expand access to lower income individuals, reducing the number of uninsured to less than 5% and bringing the state even closer to realizing the goal of universal coverage.

"Rather than continuing to devote attention to a system that ultimately will lead to higher taxes, limit access and restrict options, the focus should be to continue to build on these efforts to make health care better, simpler and more affordable."