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NEWS RELEASE

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NEW YORK HEALTH PLAN ASSOCIATION ON HEALTH CARE DIVIDEND TAX BILL

Statement by Eric Linzer, HPA President and CEO

“This legislation (S.8470/A.9519) is unconstitutional, violating the Commerce Clause of the U.S. Constitution and due process provisions of the State Constitution, and would establish an anti-business precedent by double-taxing earnings after an entity has already paid taxes on its revenues.

“Further, taxes on health insurance are already too high for New Yorkers, totaling more than \$6 billion a year that adds well over \$1,000 to premiums for the average family, and the state has sufficient surplus if it wants to increase funding to hospitals. Rather than imposing a new 9.3% tax on health plans, the focus should be on utilizing existing taxes, fees and assessments more efficiently to support financially struggling hospitals.”

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