

PRESS RELEASE

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**When the dust settles...
Let's not forget about healthcare**

Albany – The Governor's State of the State address reflected a strong commitment toward strengthening New York's overall business community, and as a small business coalition, we strongly support reforms and initiatives that will create better working environment for our members.

Even as New York move forward to implement the federal healthcare reform law and establish a health insurance exchange, double-digit increases in health insurance premiums remain at the top of the agenda for our members. Earlier this week the Governor talked about needing to do more to control the cost of health care, which is the underlying reason premiums continue to rise.

Coupling that with today's message, we look forward to working with the Governor and the New York State Legislature to take on that cost control challenge in order to enhance the business climate for New York's small businesses.

Pamela Reese Finch, Executive Director