



NEW YORK STATE'S CRISIS – AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE

THE EMPLOYER ALLIANCE FOR AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE

PRESS RELEASE

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Employer Alliance for Affordable Health Care

Statement in support of Senate Proposal for Mental Health Mandate

ALBANY – The Employer Alliance for Affordable Health Care, a 2,000-member organization largely comprised of small businesses, supports the new Senate proposal to exempt small businesses from the unlimited mental health mandate now being considered in Albany.

“We applaud Majority Leader Bruno and Senator Libous for their recognition of the serious financial impact this legislation would have on small businesses – many already struggling to provide health insurance coverage for their employees.” said Alliance chairman Scott Miller. “More than 3 million New Yorkers have no health insurance coverage. 75% of the uninsured are working – most for small companies. We clearly have a crisis of affordability. Against the backdrop of Covered the Uninsured Week, the Senate has made a bold statement that New York cannot afford another New Yorker without health insurance and that must be applauded.”

Large companies that can self-insure their health insurance are not required to cover state health insurance mandates. As a result small businesses – those least able to afford it – are left with the burden of paying for state health insurance mandates. “This proposal provides small businesses “parity” with large companies who are granted greater flexibility in designing their employee’s health benefit package” concluded Miller.

The Employer Alliance for Affordable Health Care is the largest single-issue business coalition in New York State. Members are committed to preserving quality, affordable health insurance by opposing health insurance mandates.

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