



The Employer Alliance for Affordable Health Care

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MEMORANDUM IN OPPOSITION

Bill Number: S.3690 (Hannon)/A.5692 (Gottfried)

Allows Physicians to Engage in Collective Bargaining

The Employer Alliance for Affordable Health Care is the largest, single-issue grassroots coalition in New York State. Our members include more than 3,000 small and medium-sized businesses representing more than 150,000 working New Yorkers.

WE OPPOSE THIS MANDATE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

- This proposal subjects health insurance consumers to “price fixing” by their providers, further eroding the consumer’s ability to effectively control health insurance costs. As small businesses are the hub of this state’s economy, we must work to ensure continued access to basic, affordable health insurance.
- By reducing the competitive nature of healthcare, this bill ultimately increases costs. Studies estimate that for every 1% increase in premiums, 30,000 New Yorkers lose their health insurance coverage. (Barents Group 1999)
- It’s counter-productive to federal reform efforts. New York is at the threshold of enacting a federal exchange. The legislature must refrain from making any changes that will have a negative impact on the outcome of federal reform.

**For these reasons, the Employer Alliance asks you to
OPPOSE S.3690/A.5692**

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