



The Nurse Practitioner Association New York State

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## MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

S.4611 (Murphy)/A.6820 (Gunther)

*AN ACT to amend the tax law, in relation to establishing a personal income tax credit to community-based faculty clinicians who provide clinical preceptorships*

The Nurse Practitioner Association New York State (“NPA”) is the only statewide professional association of nurse practitioners (“NPs”) in New York, nearly 18,000 of who practice throughout New York State. The NPA and its members are committed to maintaining the highest professional standards for nurse practitioners, and ensuring the greatest quality care for health care consumers. This organization provides continuing education programs, assists in NP training, and advocates with respect to legislative and regulatory issues which affect nurse practitioners and the patients they serve. The NPA **supports S.4611 (Murphy)/A.6820 (Gunther)**, which establishes a clinical preceptorship personal income tax credit for NPs and other professionals who provide community based instruction to students.

The Center of Health Workforce Studies, School of Public Health, University of Albany has repeatedly noted that “[w]hile the demand for primary care physicians has increased in recent years, the in-State retention of primary care physicians in New York has declined.” According to the CHWS report on 2012 New York Residency Training Outcomes, “only 44% of newly trained physicians” plan to practice in New York, with more than 40% of physicians stating that they plan to enter a specialty (not provide primary care). Additionally, a March 2013 report from the CHWS confirms that “primary care physicians are not evenly distributed across the state, and are more likely to practice in urban areas compared to rural areas.” There is a shortage across the entire state. In fact, 60, out of 62 counties are federally-designated “Medically Underserved Areas” and “Healthcare Provider Shortage Areas,” substantiating the lack of primary care capacity in New York. This problem will only exacerbated if there is a lack of healthcare professionals willing to assist in the education and training of the new generation of practitioners, including NPs.

The demands on New York’s highly qualified healthcare professionals are substantial. There are constantly competing interests. Nonetheless, it is incumbent on these devoted individuals to provide supports for the newly educated healthcare workforce and many practitioners volunteer their time to assist with clinical training programs. This legislation acknowledges the value of New York’s existing experienced healthcare workforce, and incentivizes their participation in a preceptor program by offering participants a \$1,000-\$3,000 income tax credit. Enacting this bill would demonstrate New York’s commitment to ensuring healthcare professionals are available to all the State’s communities, for many years to come.

For the foregoing reasons, the NPA **supports S.4611 (Murphy)/A.6820 (Gunther)** in order to ensure that New York appropriately recognizes the leading healthcare practitioners who are inspired to support the next generation healthcare practitioners.