

MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

Albany Medical College

Albert Einstein
College of Medicine

Columbia University
College of Physicians
and Surgeons

CUNY School of
Medicine

Hofstra Northwell School
of Medicine at Hofstra
University

Icahn School of
Medicine at Mount Sinai

Jacobs School of
Medicine and
Biomedical Sciences,
the University at Buffalo

New York Institute of
Technology College of
Osteopathic Medicine

New York Medical
College

New York University
School of Medicine

School of Medicine and
Dentistry at the
University of Rochester
Medical Center

Stony Brook University
School of Medicine

SUNY Downstate
Medical Center

SUNY Upstate
Medical University

Touro College of
Osteopathic Medicine

Weill Cornell
Medicine

A. 6820 (Gunther) – S.4611 (Murphy)

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 Associated Medical Schools of New York (AMSNY) supports A.6820 (Gunther) – S.4611 (Murphy), which would provide tax credit incentives to clinical preceptors providing invaluable educational experiences and mentoring to medical and allied health professions students at New York State academic institutions.

In the aggregate, New York State's 16 public and private medical schools educate more than 10 percent of the physicians, and our teaching hospitals train more than 15 percent of the medical residents in the US. Moreover, New York's medical schools have expanded enrollment nearly 20 percent over the past decade to meet projected physician shortages.

Educational opportunities in clinical settings are vital to developing physicians with the knowledge, skills and competence necessary to practice medicine in a complex and changing health care environment. Clinical clerkships – which are typically undertaken in the third and fourth years of medical school – provide invaluable experiences in hospitals and other community-based settings. Physician preceptors in those clinical settings educate and mentor medical students, providing practical experiences across a range of medical specialties, and helping guide students' career trajectories.

As health care needs – and strategies to educate and train the health care workforce – evolve, demands for clinical experiences, not only in medicine, but also dentistry, nursing and physician assistant programs, continue to grow. A 2016 study of college and university clinical affiliations in New York State by Pace University's College of Health Professionals found that 79 percent of respondents experienced difficulty in securing and maintaining clinical placements. Respondents cited lack of interest by practitioners (93 percent) and lack of interest by senior health care management (81 percent) as primary obstacles. Also contributing to the preceptor shortage is the placement of medical and other health professions students enrolled in programs located outside the state (and outside the U.S.) in clinical settings in New York. Such placements, which often include compensation paid to hospitals by for-profit education programs, have disrupted long-standing clinical affiliations, to the detriment of New York's academic institutions.

Enactment of this legislation will provide clear incentive to clinical preceptors in New York State to educate, train and mentor students enrolled in New York State's medical schools and health professions programs and allow our institutions to continue expanding enrollment to meet the growing demand for high quality health care.

For these reasons, AMSNY supports A.6820 (Gunther) – S.4611 (Murphy) and urges the Legislature and Governor to enact this bill.

For more information, please contact Jo Wiederhorn, President & CEO
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