

**RESOLUTION NO. 143-13 INTRODUCED BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
URGING THE NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE TO ENACT
ASSEMBLY BILL A5389-A AND SENATE BILL S.2078**

WHEREAS, Every person in New York State and the United States deserves access to affordable, quality health care, and the enormous, ever rising profits of private insurance companies, HMOs and pharmaceutical companies have resulted in the limiting and virtual denial of healthcare to millions of New Yorkers; and

WHEREAS, Under the current system, both the insured and uninsured can incur financially crippling medical charges, (upwards of 60% of personal bankruptcies are linked to medical bills), coupled with unacceptable and sometimes life-threatening delays in obtaining ongoing, essential health care; and

WHEREAS, New York healthcare costs continue to increase exponentially, putting New York in the top 5 states for highest health care spending, making health insurance unaffordable for many, and creating an unsupportable financial burden for Sullivan County taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, 2012 County Health Rankings (www.countyhealthrankings.org) show Sullivan County ranked 61 out of 62 NY Counties, next to last in overall health; and

WHEREAS, Statistics show that the greatest barrier to good health is poverty, and that denied access to adequate healthcare diminishes people's ability to work, prosper and promote their overall wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, New York's cost benefit analysis on securing state sponsored, quality health insurance for all New Yorkers revealed that only a single payer system like **New York Health** provided both the desired universal comprehensive healthcare and reduced healthcare spending by **\$20 billion** annually by 2019; and

WHEREAS, **New York Health** would significantly reduce the cost of public health programs like Medicaid and government paid health plans those for NYS employees, by eliminating the estimated 30% of costs generated by high administrative overhead, excessive executive compensation, and profit driven practices in the private health insurance industry; and

WHEREAS, **New York Health** would generate savings by replacing the complicated, costly and often chaotic claims procedures currently employed by thousands of public and private insurance providers, with a simple, one stop single payer system for all claims; and

WHEREAS, **New York Health**, funded by assessments based on ability to pay: a progressively graduated state payroll tax (80% by employer, 20% by employee, 100% by self-employed), a surcharge on upper bracket non-employment income (e.g. interest,

dividends, capital gains), and rollover of Federal funds (formerly paid for Medicare, Medicaid, Family Health Plus and Child Health Plus programs), will reduce healthcare costs for government, businesses and individuals and eliminate the “local share” funding of Medicaid that has been such a financial burden for County property taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, Senator Perkins and Assemblyman Gottfried have introduced the **New York Health** bill, A.5389-A (Gottfried) /Senate bill S.2078-A (Perkins), to provide affordable, high quality, comprehensive health care for all New Yorkers, with access to medical services and providers of their choice, without regard to age, income, health or employment status; and

WHEREAS, In adopting the **New York Health** single payer plan, New York would be joining with other states such as Vermont, Maryland, Oregon, Montana, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and California in developing a universal health care alternative with better health coverage at significantly less cost than the one offered through recent federal legislation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the New York State Legislature be and hereby is respectfully memorialized by The Sullivan County Legislature to enact A.5389/S.2078 **New York Health** bill; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Hon. Sheldon Silver, Hon. Dan Skelos, Hon. John J. Bonacic, Hon. Aileen Gunther and Hon. Claudia Tenney.

Moved by Mrs. LaBuda, seconded by Mrs. Gieger, put to a vote with Mr. Sorensen opposed, resolution carried and declared duly adopted on motion March 21, 2013.