



Legislation Text

File #: Res 1738-2013, **Version:** *

Preconsidered Res. No. 1738

Resolution calling on the State University of New York and the New York State Department of Health to work with stakeholders to pursue the acquisition of Long Island College Hospital (LICH) by another health care institution to preserve critical health care services for the community, and to ensure that all resources gained from any sale or transfer of LICH assets are used exclusively for the preservation of these services; and authorizing the Speaker to file or join amicus briefs on behalf of the Council in support of the preservation of such services.

By Council Members Lander, Levin, Dickens, Fidler, Gennaro, Gentile, Gonzalez, Greenfield, James, King, Mealy, Mendez, Vann, Williams, Wills and Rose

Whereas, For more than 150 years, Long Island College Hospital (“LICH”) has been a critical part of the Brooklyn healthcare system; and

Whereas, LICH provides medical care for over 100,000 patients a year and employs more than 2,000 people; and

Whereas, Closing LICH will negatively impact the delivery of healthcare in Brooklyn, especially for residents of the communities surrounding the hospital, including Red Hook, a neighborhood specifically designated as a “Health Professional Shortage Area” by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and

Whereas, LICH is part of the State University of New York (“SUNY”) Downstate Medical Center; and

Whereas, LICH has faced financial difficulties for years and, on February 20, 2013, the President of SUNY Downstate Medical Center, John F. Williams, M.D., submitted a plan to the New York State Department of Health (“DOH”) to close LICH; and

Whereas, According to Part Q of Chapter 56 of the Laws of New York, signed on March 28, 2013, the Chancellor of SUNY is required to submit a sustainability plan for SUNY Downstate facilities on or before

June 1, 2013, which must be approved by the DOH Commissioner and the New York State Director of the Division of Budget for implementation by June 15, 2013; and

Whereas, In the development of this plan the bill states that the SUNY Chancellor “shall consult with labor representatives, community representatives, and other regional stakeholders”; and

Whereas, In accordance with this law, SUNY and DOH should engage with stakeholders to develop a plan that preserves critical health care services at LICH; and

Whereas, SUNY and DOH should ensure that any resources from the sale or transfer of LICH real estate or any other LICH assets should be used exclusively for the continuation of critical health care services for the community, rather than for the budget of another institution; and

Whereas, SUNY and DOH should explore all options to preserve critical health care services for the community, including the acquisition of the LICH campus by another health care institution; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls on the State University of New York and the New York State Department of Health to work with stakeholders to pursue the acquisition of Long Island College Hospital (LICH) by another health care institution to preserve critical health care services for the community, and to ensure that all resources gained from any sale or transfer of LICH assets are used exclusively for the preservation of these services; and authorizing the Speaker to file or join amicus briefs on behalf of the Council in support of the preservation of such services.

CGP
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