



Legislation Text

File #: Res 0793-2003, **Version:** *

Res. No.793

Resolution opposing the privatization of services within the State University of New York hospitals, and urging the Governor of the State of New York to withdraw his proposal to change the current status of the SUNY teaching hospitals and continue State support for these public institutions that train our doctors and nurses and provide essential services to our communities.

By Council Members Clarke, Jackson, Quinn, Barron, Brewer, Comrie, Davis, Fidler, Foster, Gerson, Katz, Koppell, Lopez, Martinez, Monserrate, Recchia, Reed, Rivera, Seabrook, Sears, Serrano, Stewart, Vann and Weprin

Whereas, Governor Pataki's proposed State Executive Budget for Fiscal Year 2004 includes a plan to allow the Trustees of State University of New York, also known as SUNY, to sell the Health Science Centers, located in Stony Brook, Syracuse and Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn, to for-profit operators and eliminate State support for SUNY teaching hospitals; and

Whereas, The Health Science Centers of SUNY are outstanding public health care facilities, serving thousands of New Yorkers each year regardless of their ability to pay; and

Whereas, SUNY/Downstate Medical Center is a public teaching hospital, training new doctors and nurses, that serves the Borough of Brooklyn as well as the surrounding counties of New York, providing vital medical services to our community consistent with the educational mission of SUNY; and

Whereas, The privatization of SUNY Downstate would cause a cutback in vital services and the elimination of hospital units that are not financially profitable, such as the neonatal intensive care unit, the cardiac care unit and the orthopedic care unit; and

Whereas, Privatization would also mean that thousands of SUNY hospital workers would lose all current contractual rights and benefits, would no longer be able to participate in the state retirement system, would lose all civil service protections, and would likely face layoffs and reductions in salary; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York opposes the privatization of services within the State University of New York hospitals, and urges the Governor of the State of New York to withdraw his proposal to change the current status of the SUNY teaching hospitals and continue State support for these public institutions that train our doctors and nurses and provide essential services to our communities.

JM

LS 2231

04/07/03

|1013|