



*Representing the advocacy interests  
of hospitals and health systems on Long Island and in the Hudson Valley*

# SUPPORT

## MEMORANDUM

May 25, 2017

TO: Senate Majority Leader John Flanagan  
Senate Co-Leader Jeffrey Klein  
Members, Long Island Delegation of the New York State Senate  
Members, Hudson Valley Delegation of the New York State Senate

FROM: Kevin W. Dahill, President and CEO

RE: S.5779 (Hannon) — In Senate Insurance Committee

S.5779 amends Insurance Law to require health insurers to notify healthcare providers of the specific type of insurance plan or product that a patient is enrolled in when liability for a claim is unclear. **The Suburban Hospital Alliance of New York State strongly supports this bill.**

Under the current law, insurers are not required to identify or share information regarding the type of health insurance plan or product a patient is enrolled in with the healthcare provider caring for the patient. It can often be difficult for providers to obtain this information making it impossible for them to know the specifics of a patient's coverage. In fact, the information often isn't shared until after a claim has been submitted, denied and appealed, a process that delays payment and wastes the resources of the healthcare providers, insurers and regulators. This process will only become more complex with changes in health insurance plans and product types under healthcare reform.

Providing information on the patient's plan earlier in the process could help to streamline the billing and payment process for providers and insurers and could ultimately help to improve communications with the patient regarding coverage.

**For the reasons cited above, the Suburban Hospital Alliance urges your support for S.5779.**