



New York State Public Employee Conference

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May 2022

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Re: Opposition to S5474 (Senator Rivera) / A6058 (Assemblyman Gottfried)

Dear Legislator:

I write today on behalf of the (currently) 82 unions and umbrella groups that are member units of the New York State Public Employee Conference (NYSPEC), and all current and future retired public employees, who along with their family members collectively comprise several million New Yorkers.

Your house's version of the "New York Health act", either S5474 (Senator Rivera) or A6058 (Assemblyman Gottfried), has numerous sponsors. Whether you are a sponsor or not, please read this letter!

NYSPEC is clearly on record, as repeated in the 2021 version of our Memorandum in Opposition, that we are not *conceptually* opposed to universal health care.

However, we still stand in staunch opposition to the current and previous iterations of this seriously flawed proposed legislation.

Aside from the *unknown* astronomical cost of the proposed legislation, along with several other unanswered (and unanswerable!) questions, excerpted here from our current formal opposition memo is our chief objection: "*... One – perhaps the most important – example, is how to recompense those public employees who have already paid, through reduced salary and benefits accepted as part of collective bargaining agreements negotiated over the course of decades, for their existing health plans. Indeed, for several years, the following language has appeared in the "WE OPPOSE" section of NYSPEC's Legislative Agenda: "Any legislation which circumvents, converts, and/or nullifies hard-fought gains to health care coverage obtained through collective bargaining."* In the "NEWS" section of our website – nyspec.org – you may view our formal opposition memo.

If you have added your name as a sponsor, you may have been unaware of this opposition; we implore you to re-consider and remove your name from sponsorship of this insidious proposal, which would cost the taxpayers of this state untold billions of dollars to implement. If you have not sponsored this bill, we applaud your awareness and concern for the devastating impact this bill could have on New Yorkers.

Thank you,

Peter D. Meringolo

Peter D. Meringolo
Chairman

~ See Reverse for Our 2022 Member Units ~



2022 *Member Units*

Amalgamated Transit Union Local 726
Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1056
Arlington Professional Firefighters Local 2393
Association of Supreme Court Reporters
Bridge & Tunnel Officers Benevolent Association
Bridge & Tunnel Superior Officers
Benevolent Association
Captains Endowment Association
Citywide Association of Law Assistants
Civil Service Coalition of
Building Trades and Municipal Unions
Correction Captains Association
Correction Officers Benevolent Association
Court Attorneys Association
of the City Of New York
Court Officers Benevolent Association of
Nassau County
CWA Local 1180
Detectives Endowment Association
Detective Investigators Association
East Hampton Village PBA
I B E W Local 3
I U O E AFL-CIO Local 14-14b
I U O E Local 15A-B-C-D
I U O E Local 30
I U O E Local 211
I U O E Local 891
Lieutenants Benevolent Association
Local 372, DC 37
Local 983, DC 37
Long Island Public Service Employees Local 342
MTA Commanding Officers Association
MTA PBA
Nassau County Deputy Sheriff's
Benevolent Association
Nassau County Detectives Association Inc.
Nassau County Fire Marshal Benevolent Association
Nassau County PBA
Nassau County Police Conference
Nassau County Sheriff's COBA
Nassau County Superior Officers Association
New York District Council of Carpenters
NYC Deputy Sheriff's Association
NYS Correctional Officers & PBA
NYS Court Clerks Association

NYS Court Officers Association
NYS Nurses Association
NYS Police Investigators Association
NYS Professional Fire Fighters Association
NYS Public Employees Federation, AFL-CIO
NYS Troopers PBA
NYS Supreme Court Officers
Police Conference of New York
Port Authority Maintenance Supervisors Association
Port Authority PBA
Port Authority Police Detectives
Endowment Association
Port Authority Police Sergeants
Benevolent Association
S E I U Local 246
S E I U Local 300
S E I U Local 621
Sanitation Officers' Association
Sergeants Benevolent Association
Social Services Employees Union Local 371
Southampton Town PBA
Subway Surface Supervisors Association
Suffolk County Association of Municipal Employees
Suffolk County Correction Officers Association
Suffolk County Court Employees Association
Suffolk County Deputy Sheriffs PBA
Suffolk County Detectives Association
Suffolk County PBA
Suffolk County Police Conference
Suffolk County Police Superior Officers Association
Suffolk County Probation Officers Association
TWU Local 100
Uniformed EMS Officers Union
Uniform EMTs and Paramedics Local 2507
Uniformed Fire Alarm Dispatchers
Benevolent Association
Uniformed Firefighters Association
Uniformed Fire Officers Association
Uniformed Sanitationmen's Association
United Public Service Employees Association
United Service Workers Union Local 74
United Transit Leadership Organization
Westchester County Correction Officers Association
Yonkers Fire Fighters Local 628
Yonkers Uniformed Fire Officers Association

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*Members whose names are highlighted are *not* listed as sponsors of A6058. Nonetheless, they should be contacted as well