



January 17, 2012

Hon. Patrick Gallivan  
Senator  
New York State  
4729 Transit Road, Suite 7  
Depew, NY 14043

Dear Senator Gallivan:

The Amherst Chamber of Commerce represents over 2,500 members of the business community. Many of our members are small business owners who wear many different hats throughout the day. While serving as chief janitor, financial officer and baker throughout the day, there is not always time to focus on important legislative issues that can truly impact their business. These members look to the Chamber for its leadership and ability to speak on their behalf.

This is why we are so pleased to support your legislation, Senate Bill 5889. Your effort to freeze local contributions to Medicaid, followed by a gradual state assumption of all non-federal Medicaid costs, is applauded. By pulling these costs back to the State level, counties will be able to pass on the cost savings to residents and business owners through property tax reductions. This will certainly assist business owners in not only keeping their doors open, but to continue to build on their prosperity through job creation and investment.

At the Amherst Chamber of Commerce, we are all about taking care of business. Senate Bill 5889 would certainly allow business owners to take care of theirs. Thank you for your leadership on this issue. We look forward to working with you to ensure this important legislation is passed by both houses in New York State and signed into law by Governor Cuomo.

Sincerely,

Colleen DiPirro  
President & CEO  
Amherst Chamber of Commerce

Earl Wells, III  
Chair, Public Affairs Council  
President, e3communications