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The Local Business Relief Coalition Applauds Senator Jamaal Bailey and Assemblyman David Weprin for Introducing Health Insurance Mandate Reform Legislation

Albany, NY — The Local Business Relief Coalition today thanked Jamaal Bailey and David Weprin for introducing S10080 and A8364-A, legislation designed to bring greater scrutiny, transparency, and accountability to the growing number of health insurance mandates that continue to drive up the cost of coverage for New York employers and families.

The Coalition said the legislation represents an important and long-overdue step toward addressing one of the key drivers of healthcare affordability challenges facing small and local businesses across New York State.

"For years, small businesses have faced relentless increases in health insurance premiums, fueled in part by the constant proliferation of new insurance mandates that add costs to coverage," **said the Local Business Relief Coalition.** "Lawmakers must more carefully evaluate the cumulative financial impact of mandates on employers, employees, and consumers already struggling with affordability."

The Coalition noted that fully insured small-group plans are particularly impacted by state benefit mandates, placing small and medium-sized businesses at a competitive disadvantage compared to larger self-insured employers that are exempt from many state insurance requirements under federal law.

"New York's small businesses want to provide quality healthcare coverage to their employees, but affordability remains a growing crisis," **the Coalition continued**. "This legislation recognizes that healthcare mandates are not cost-free and that policymakers should fully understand the financial consequences before adding new requirements that ultimately increase premiums."

The Local Business Relief Coalition has consistently advocated for a comprehensive review of existing mandates, greater cost transparency, and policies focused on reducing the underlying drivers of healthcare costs in New York.

The Coalition thanked Senator Bailey and Assemblyman Weprin for their leadership on this issue and expressed its commitment to working collaboratively with the sponsors, lawmakers, and stakeholders to help advance the legislation this session.

“We appreciate Senator Bailey and Assemblyman Weprin for recognizing the urgent need to address healthcare affordability for local businesses and working families,” **the Coalition said**. “We look forward to working with the sponsors and the Legislature to help move this important legislation forward.”

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About the Local Business Relief Coalition

The Local Business Relief Coalition is a broad coalition of business organizations representing employers, local businesses, and job creators across New York State advocating for common-sense healthcare affordability reforms that address the real drivers of rising healthcare costs.