

Workers' Compensation Reform Coalition Members



March 22, 2017

Re: State Budget — workers' compensation reform

Dear Legislator:

We strongly support the Senate Budget Resolution calling for significant workers' compensation reform. High workers' compensation costs have created a significant hardship for public and private employers alike. We applaud the Senate's commitment to achieving cost-cutting workers' compensation reform as part of the new state budget. We now urge the Governor and Assembly to help ensure that comprehensive workers' compensation reform is included in the final budget agreement.

This past year alone, the basis for workers' compensation costs increased more than nine percent, and in some cases premiums increased by almost 40 percent. This continues nearly a decade of increases that businesses have endured following the 2007 reforms. New York's compensation rates are now the third highest in the nation. The growing cost of workers' compensation coverage is one of the biggest business and competitiveness concerns facing New York's job creators. These immense costs impact all New York employers, including for-profits, non-profits, schools, municipalities and state government.

Our state's workers' compensation system is in crisis. With a total cost of \$10 billion per year, more than 10 percent of which is incurred by state and local governments, the time for reform is now. That is why we the undersigned, which includes dozens of organizations and businesses who together employ millions of New Yorkers, have joined together in calling on the Governor and the Assembly to take a leadership role in pushing for substantive and commonsense workers' compensation reforms that will reduce employers' costs while continuing to protect injured workers.

The Senate's decisive budget resolution on workers' compensation reform shows that the voices of thousands of employers across New York State are being heard; we urge you to hear them too. We look forward to continuing discussions with the Senate, the Assembly, the Governor and other stakeholders as we move toward meaningful workers' compensation reform this year.

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Clare Rose • CMIT Solutions of Monroe • Columbian Financial Group • Construction Exchange of Buffalo & WNY
Corning Area Chamber of Commerce • Cortland County Chamber of Commerce
Craft Beer Guild Distributing of NY • Crowley Fabricating & Machining Co., Inc • Custom Courier Solutions
D. Bertoline & Sons • Dana Distributors • DeCarolis Truck Rental Inc. • DeCrescente Distributing Company
Deer River • Delta Engineers, Architects and Land Surveyors, LLC • Dematic-Retrotech
DOCS Facilities Solutions • Dr. Stephen Hausrath • Dream Catcher Real Estate & Properties
Dutchess Beer Distributors • Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce • Eagle Beverage Company
East Avenue Inn & Suites • Eastern Contractors Association • Eck Plastic Arts • EFPR Group, LLP
Empire State Forest Products Association • Empire State Restaurant and Tavern Association
ESL Federal Credit Union • ETS • Feehan Financial Services • Ferro Corporation
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New York Farm Bureau • New York State Association of Health Care Providers, Inc.
New York State Association of School Business Officials • New York State Beer Wholesalers Association

New York State Builders Association • New York State Conference of Mayors
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 New York State Vegetable Growers Association • Newspaper Publishers LLC • Niagara USA Chamber
 Nichols Construction Team • North Country Chamber of Commerce • North Country Creamery
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 Northern New York Builders Exchange • Norwich Beverage Corp. • Nu-Flow Services of Upstate New York
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 Sunnking, Inc. • Sunstream Corporation • Superior Plus Energy Services • SWBR Architects
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 The Business Council of New York State, Inc. • The Business Council of Westchester
 The Dorschel Automotive Group • The Food Industry Alliance of New York State, Inc.
 The Manufacturers Association of Central New York • The New York State Self-Insurance Association
 The Otsego County Chamber of Commerce • The Partners Insurance & Financial Services
 The Pike Companies • The Rochester Pedal Tour's Team • Tiffany Transportation Services Ltd.
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