**A1842-B; S6867 Education Preparation of Registered Nurses: “BSN in Ten” Executive Summary**

Advances in health science and technology, increasing patient complexity, and a more diverse population require registered professional nurses with different and improved skills than in the past

**Health of New Yorkers - It is all about quality & safety**

* A 10% increase in the number of Baccalaureate (BS) prepared nurses decreases the risk of patient death by 5%.
* With 60% of nurses prepared at the BS level, 6,000 fewer surgical death are projected for NY annually.
* Hospitals with a higher proportion of BS educated nurses have lower rates of congestive heart failure mortality, hospital acquired pressure ulcers, failure to rescue, and length of inpatient stay.

**Economic Benefits to New York**

Improved patient outcomes reduce the cost of healthcare and avoid payment reductions per new

Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services guidelines.

* With 60% of nurses prepared at the BS level a 10% reduction is projected in the 200,000 hospital-acquired pressure ulcers, potentially saving $17.5 million annually from reduced length of stay.
* Reduced readmissions eliminate resultant payment penalties.
* BS prepared RNs have higher job satisfaction and longer job tenures. Every 1% reduction in RN

turnover saves $12.9 million statewide.

* A better educated nursing profession will achieve the MRT goal of shifting health care to a less expensive, more efficient primary care model.

**Associate Degree Programs continue to play a vital role in nursing education**

* The bill emanated from a 2003 New York State Board for Nursing recommendation and is modeled after NYS teacher education requirements.
* The bill applies to only future educated graduates of Diploma and Associate Degree (AD) nursing programs.
* The bill preserves Associate, Diploma and Baccalaureate nursing education. No AD or Diploma school would close.
* Due to a liberal grandparent clause, the bill would not intensify any potential nursing shortage.
* Each future diploma and associate degree-prepared new RN will have 10 years from initial licensure to complete a Baccalaureate degree in nursing.
* No licenses would be "removed" and licensure would be extended up to two years if hardship prevented an RN from obtaining a BSN in 10 years.
* **Adequate Capacity Exists Statewide to Educate RNs**
* New York has 47 programs for RNs pursuing the BS degree and 19 one year programs for students entering nursing with a bachelor's degree in another field.
* More than 340 RN to BS programs are offered at least partially on line.
* New York Deans have implemented a statewide articulation agreement and developed a process for a standardized curriculum, concurrent admission to AD and BS programs, and standardization of pre-admission prerequisites.
* RN to BS programs are not faculty-intensive because fewer clinical hours are required.