

RESOLUTION NO. 330

REQUESTING THE NYS LEGISLATURE TO DIRECT THE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH NOT TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BERGER COMMISSION REGARDING BELLEVUE WOMAN'S HOSPITAL IN SCHENECTADY COUNTY

Introduced: 7/9/07

By Messrs. Domalewicz, Aidala, Aylward, Beston, Clay, Clenahan, Collins, Commisso, Ms. Connolly, Messrs. Cotrofeld, Ethier, Horstmyer, Houghtaling, Joyce, Ms. Maffia-Tobler, Messrs. Mayo, McCoy, Morse, Nichols, Reilly, Riddick, Shafer, Steck, Ward, Mss. Wiley and Willingham:

WHEREAS, Under current law, the NYS Commissioner of Health is required to implement the recommendations of the Commission on Health Care Facilities in the twenty-first century, which include the closure of Bellevue Woman's Hospital in Schenectady County, and

WHEREAS, Bellevue Woman's Hospital is one of only two hospitals in the nation dedicated exclusively to women's health, serving women from around the world with specialized care, and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 847 and Assembly Bill No. 1740 request the NYS Commissioner of Health not to implement the recommendations of the Berger Commission regarding the closure of Bellevue Woman's Hospital in Schenectady County, and

WHEREAS, The bills' sponsors additionally challenge the accuracy of the Berger Commission report, claiming that the recommendation to close the hospital is based on incorrect information, and

WHEREAS, According to the sponsors of the State legislation, the Berger report grossly overstates Bellevue's 2005 deficit by more than \$16 million, or 92%, and incorrectly infers that the hospital does not perform complex surgical procedures when it fact Bellevue physicians perform 3,000 surgeries a year, and

WHEREAS, The loss of Bellevue to women of the Capital District and around the world would impede advances in women's health care, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this Honorable Body urges the NYS Assembly to follow the lead of the NYS Senate in approving Senate Bill No. 847 and Assembly Bill No. 1740 requesting the Commissioner of Health not to implement the recommendations of the Berger Commission regarding the closure of Bellevue Woman's Hospital in Schenectady County, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the County Legislature is directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the appropriate State and County Officials.

On roll call vote the following voted in favor: Messrs. Aidala, Aylward, Mss. Barlette, Benedict, Messrs. Beston, Burke, Carman, Clay, Clenahan, Clouse, Collins, Commisso, Ms. Connolly, Messrs. Cotrofeld, Dawson, Domalewicz, Ethier, Gordon, Horstmyer, Houghtaling, Joyce, Ms. Maffia-Tobler, Messrs. Mayo, McCoy, Morse, Nichols, Ms. Prentiss, Messrs. Reilly, Riddick, Shafer, Steck, Tunny, Ward, Mss. Wiley and Willingham - 35.

Those opposed: Mr. Infante, Ms. McKnight and Mr. Monjeau- 3.

Resolution was adopted. 7/9/07