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County Executive

JAMES CRUCETTI, MD, MPH Commissioner of Health

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

COUNTY OF ALBANY 175 GREEN STREET ALBANY, NEW YORK 12202

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April 3, 2013

Honorable Shawn M. Morse, Chairman Albany County Legislature Legislative Clerk's Office 112 State Street, Room 710 Albany, New York 12207

Dear Chairperson Morse:

During the legislative public hearing held on April 2, 2013 regarding the proposed lease agreement with Upstate Services Group (USG) to assume operation of the Albany County Nursing Home (ACNH), Dr. James Crucetti spoke on behalf of the Albany County Board of Health and stated that the Board of Health discussed this matter at considerable length at our last meeting. Following our deliberations, there was unanimous support from the Board (with one abstention from the county legislator on the Board) for this proposal.

Subsequent to the hearing, Dr. Crucetti was asked by several legislators if the Board would consider reviewing the financial analysis of the ACNH, dated March 4, 2013, that was prepared by the New York State United Teachers. In addition, the Board was asked to review two separate documents prepared in response to this financial analysis: (1) a letter addressed to Albany County legislators from David Friedfel from the Office of Management and Budget, and (2) an Excel spreadsheet entitled, "Restated Results Shown by NYSUT," which documented revised estimates of operating costs for the ACNH after adjusting for several assumptions made in the initial NYSUT analysis.

I would like to state that the Board does not provide expertise in financial analysis nor do we believe it is our role or responsibility to be an authority in this area. However, at the April 1, 2013 meeting, the Board discussed the availability of alternate budgetary estimates, such as those

previously described. The Board members believe that the proposed lease agreement with USG provides a realistic solution to address the current fiscal concerns facing Albany County while assuring the long-term viability of the nursing home and, most importantly, maintaining the valuable services it provides to our residents.

Our primary concern is for the overall health and well-being of Albany County residents, particularly its most vulnerable citizens, and we continue to recommend support of the lease agreement as we believe it is a cost-effective option for delivering care at the ACNH in the future.

Sincerely,

Christopher Nolin, President

Albany County Board of Health

cc: Honorable Daniel P. McCoy, Albany County Executive

Mr. Jamie Kallner, Counsel to the Majority Mr. Arnis Zilgme, Counsel to the Minority

Distinguished Members, Albany County Board of Health