

**Memorandum in Support: S8147, S8178, S8190 (Senator Persaud)**

American Nurses Association-New York (ANA-NY) is a professional nursing organization representing the interests of New York State's 260,000 registered nurses. ANA-NY advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing care, supporting the professional and educational advancement of nurses, and promoting the welfare of nurses to the end that all people may have better health care.

ANA-NY, on behalf of its members and their patients, strongly supports the passage of a package of bills sponsored by Senator Persaud. First, **S8147/A9149 (Senator Persaud, Assemblymember Hunter)** would require health insurance policies and Medicaid to cover biomarker testing when medically appropriate. Biomarkers are often used to help determine the best treatment for cancer patients, as it can help create a targeted course of treatment that can improve survivorship and increase cancer patients' quality of life. Increasing access to this lifesaving form of testing will help improve patient outcomes and decrease health disparities in New York.

Second, **S8178/A9228 (Senator Persaud, Assemblymember Hunter)**, would require health insurance policies to cover annual ovarian cancer screening for high-risk patients. Currently, an annual gynecological exam does not test for ovarian cancer but does cover cervical and other cancers. By the time many patients are diagnosed with ovarian cancer, the cancer is in its late stages, which is often fatal. Increasing the number of ovarian cancer screenings will help diagnose this disease earlier, which will help reduce ovarian-cancer patient death. Ovarian cancer is the most lethal gynecological malignancy, and it disproportionately impacts Black women. ANA-NY strongly supports efforts to increase access to ovarian cancer testing, which will help save New Yorkers' lives.

Finally, **S8190/A9331 (Senator Persaud, Assemblymember Solages)** would require clinical trials that apply for state grant funding to post certain information about the clinical trial on the Department of Health's website. Such information must include the name of the clinical sponsors; a summary of the purpose of the clinical trial, including the type of clinical trial to be conducted; and the start and end date of the clinical trial. Increasing transparency with clinical trials will improve patient outcomes. Many clinical trials delay in making information public to the Food and Drug Administration. This delay harms patients, as it cannot be determined if a drug or treatment is a viable option to help patients with their illnesses. ANA-NY supports efforts to increase transparency between clinical trials and the general public.

For all the reasons stated above, ANA-NY supports the passage of **S8147, S8178, S8190.**