



MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

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For Immediate Release

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STATEMENT FROM MALCOLM REID, MD, MPP

PRESIDENT OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

RE FEDERAL JUDGE BLOCKS \$54 BILLION ANTHEM-CIGNA HEALTH INSURANCE MERGER

"Wednesday's decision to block the mega-merger between insurance giants Anthem and Cigna is an important development for patients and their physicians. While many regions of New York State and across the country continue to be dominated by a few large insurers, this proposed merger would have made this problem even worse. Indeed, many patient and physician advocacy organizations raised concerns regarding the potential impact of this merger proposal on patient care, including the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) and the American Medical Association (AMA) during a public hearing held by the New York Department of Financial Services (DFS) last September. We thank New York DFS Superintendent Maria Vullo for publicly articulating the huge market impact of this proposed merger had it been permitted to go forward, and New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman for joining the US Department of Justice's action to block the merger."

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Founded in 1807, the Medical Society of the State of New York is the state's principal non-profit professional organization for physicians, residents and medical students of all specialties. Its mission is to represent the interests of patients and physicians to assure quality healthcare services for all.

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