

**MEDICAL SOCIETY**  
of the  
**STATE OF NEW YORK**

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*Division of Governmental Affairs*  
**MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT**

**ON SENATE HEALTH  
COMMITTEE AGENDA**

**S.4269 (RIVERA)**

**IN ASSEMBLY HEALTH  
COMMITTEE**

**A.5425 (GOTTFRIED)**

**AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to  
applications for funds under the physician loan repayment and  
physician practice support programs**

This legislation would amend the public health law to form a workgroup to assess the impact of requiring individual applicants for grants from the Doctors Across New York physician loan repayment and physician practice support programs to use the New York State Grants Gateway. **The Medical Society of the State of New York supports this legislation.**

Doctors Across New York (DANY) is a successful recruitment and retention tool to bring physicians to underserved areas across New York. This is achieved by offering loan forgiveness and practice start-up financial support from the state. However, this year the application has been moved from the Department of Health to the New York Grants Gateway. The process to obtain a grants gateway account and the method via which applicants access the RFA is more rigorous and difficult than the previous process and there is some fear that this will reduce the number of physicians that are able to take advantage of this program.

New York is continually ranked the worst state in the nation to practice medicine and tools such as DANY are vital to ensuring an adequate workforce of doctors in the state to help assure patients can receive the care they need. The workgroup established by this legislation would gather information on the results of the new application process and will work to ensure that the number of applicants is not negatively impacted by the increased administrative steps needed to apply.

**Based on the foregoing, the Medical Society of the State of New York supports this legislation and urges its enactment.**

Respectfully submitted,

**MSSNY DIVISION OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

5/10/19 –  
Support MAA