



Dear Chairs and Honorable Members of the Committees,

On behalf of **Orchard Inc.**, a member of the National Association of Locum Tenens Organizations (NALTO®), we respectfully submit this testimony in response to proposed provisions within the New York Executive Budget that would impose rate caps and additional regulatory requirements on temporary healthcare staffing.

We are deeply concerned that these proposals pose significant risks to the stability of New York's healthcare workforce and may unintentionally reduce patient access to care—particularly in rural, safety-net, and underserved communities that rely heavily on locum tenens physicians and advanced practice providers.

Locum tenens clinicians participate in a **national labor market**. Policies that limit compensation or introduce regulatory uncertainty in one state can quickly redirect providers to neighboring states, placing New York at a competitive disadvantage during an ongoing physician shortage. Economic research consistently demonstrates that rate caps in labor-constrained markets reduce supply; in healthcare, this reduction directly translates into fewer providers available to deliver patient care.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony and for your continued commitment to the health and well-being of New Yorkers.

Respectfully submitted,

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