

MEDICAL SOCIETY
of the
STATE OF NEW YORK

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Division of Governmental Affairs
MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

PASSED ASSEMBLY

A.1034-A (GOTTFRIED)

**ON SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE
AGENDA**

S.4183 (RIVERA)

**AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to
extending an exemption for nursing homes and adult care
facilities from e-prescription requirements.,**

This measure would exempt nursing homes' prescription of oral medication from the state requirement that all prescriptions be electronically submitted. **The Medical Society of the State of New York supports this bill and urges its enactment.**

Patient care in nursing homes often present unique circumstances that can make compliance with the current electronic prescription mandate impractical. Physicians are not physically present 24 hours a day, so RNs are allowed to take orders for medications verbally from physicians to assure that the residents in need of medications can receive them promptly.

Since 2016 there has been an exemption established by NYS Department of Health that must be renewed every year and is set to expire on October 31, 2019. This legislation would set forth in statute that a waiver from this requirement would be extended to March 2021 in order to allow time for the industry and Department of Health to work together to resolve the challenges to care delivery in certain health care settings posed by the imposition of this e-prescribing mandate.

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

Respectfully submitted,

3/8/19
MMA - support

MSSNY DIVISION OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS