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**THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS**
of New York State

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF:
A.8414 Paulin/S.6069 Gallivan

DATE: MARCH 13, 2012

SUBJECT: *Requires notification on the department of health's website that all physician information may not be all-inclusive or up-to-date; requires an active link to the website maintained by the unified court system containing information on active and disposed cases in the local and state courts in the state.*

The League of Women Voters of New York State supports the above referenced legislation (A.8414) because it is essential that consumers of health care have a clear understanding of the nature of the information that they are gathering when they research a healthcare provider, and that they also have access to additional, complementary research such as the website maintained by the unified court system, when engaging in healthcare decision-making.

Consumers of health care are becoming increasingly proactive about who provides their care and about the treatment regimens they are prescribed. They may believe that they have engaged in a thorough investigation after reviewing information provided by the State's Department of Health. It is vitally important, that if the information provided by the state is not current or not complete, that consumers are clearly and easily notified of this fact.

The League of Women Voters of New York State has had positions for many years that urge transparency, accountability and informed healthcare decision-making.

For the above reasons, the League of Women Voters of New York State strongly urges your support for A.8414.