



The League of Women Voters of New York State
62 Grand Street, Albany, New York 12207
Phone: 518-465-4162 Fax: 518-465-0812
www.lwvny.org E-Mail: lwvny@lwvny.org

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

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF:
S.121/Sampson
A.2007/Gottfried

TO: SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE
DATE: FEBRUARY 24, 2009

Subject: An act to amend the public health law in relation to creating the prescription drug discount program and to repeal certain provisions of the public health law in relation to the establishment of the program.

The League of Women Voters of New York State strongly supports S.121, which aims to improve the health of New York residents by making prescription drugs more accessible and affordable.

The ever increasing cost for prescription drugs limit their accessibility, particularly for seniors, who need them the most. These ever increasing costs place a burden on health insurance plans and publicly funded medical assistance programs. The Prescription Drug Discount Program works to increase access to prescription drugs by eliminating the barriers of cost and reducing the burdens on health insurance plans both public and private by organizing the collective market power of New York's prescription drug consumers to negotiate rebates with suppliers.

This legislation supports the League's position of access to quality health care and promoting better public health while also implementing cost-containment measures to achieve those goals.

For the above reasons, the League of Women Voters of New York State strongly urges your support of S.121.