



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Martin J. Golden

## **Senator Golden Among State Senate Leaders in Delaying New York's Electronic Prescribing Mandate**

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January 29, 2015

Brooklyn – State Senator Martin J. Golden (R-C-I, Brooklyn) today is announcing that he is a co-sponsor of legislation (S. 2486), introduced by Senate Health Committee Chairman Kemp Hannon, that would delay the requirement that all prescribers use electronic prescriptions until March 27, 2016.

Senator Marty Golden stated, "There is no denying that New York State must move in the direction of e-prescribing of medications for all residents. However, there are many concerns brought forth by medical professionals that in order to be successful, they need more time. I think that many would agree with my colleagues and I that the implementation of such a major change within the field of medicine must be done right."

The concerns amongst medical professionals are based on the fact that the Federal Drug Enforcement Agency moved slowly in certifying vendors who are authorized to transmit electronic prescriptions for controlled substances. Many doctors and other prescribers around the state, many of whom have electronic records and e-prescribing capability have contracts with vendors who have not yet received the

necessary federal certification. This legislation will provide additional time to facilitate a smooth and appropriate implementation of electronic prescribing in New York.

“Electronic prescribing will go a long way in preventing pills from getting into the wrong hands, limiting opportunities for addiction and abuse. I hope my colleagues in the State Assembly will join the efforts of the State Senate and propose similar legislation so that we can take immediate action for sake of the medical profession and all patients,” said Senator Golden.