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MEMBER HOSPITALS

**Brookhaven Memorial
Hospital Medical Center**
East Patchogue

**Catholic Health Services
of Long Island**

- **Good Samaritan
Hospital Medical Center**
West Islip
- **St. Catherine of Siena
Medical Center**
Smithtown
- **St. Charles Hospital**
Port Jefferson
- **St. Francis Hospital**
- **Mercy Medical Center**
- **New Island Hospital**

East End Health Alliance

- **Eastern Long Island
Hospital**
Greenport
- **Peconic Bay
Medical Center**
Riverhead
- **Southampton Hospital**
Southampton

Long Beach Medical Center
Long Beach

**John T. Mather
Memorial Hospital**
Port Jefferson

**Nassau University
Medical Center**
East Meadow

New Island Hospital
Bethpage

**North Shore-Long Island
Jewish Health System**

- **Glen Cove Hospital**
- **North Shore
University Hospital**
- **Plainview Hospital**
- **Syosset Hospital**
- **Franklin Hospital**
- **Huntington Hospital**
- **Southside Hospital**

**Stony Brook
University Hospital**
Stony Brook

**Veterans Affairs
Medical Center**
Northport

**Winthrop South Nassau
University Health System**

- **South Nassau
Communities Hospital**
Oceanside
- **Winthrop-University
Hospital**
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**Nassau-Suffolk
Hospital Council, Inc.**

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LI Hospitals Cut Even More

State Budget Amendments Not All Hospital Friendly

Long Island's hospitals could see even steeper Medicaid cuts than originally proposed in the Executive Budget, thanks to budget amendments set forth last week by the governor. Cuts to Long Island hospitals total nearly \$46 million, an increase of about \$6 million, and spare no hospital from reductions.

In his 21-day budget amendments, the governor backed off his proposal to redirect Indirect Medical Education and indigent care dollars, a proposal that would have benefitted a few hospitals on Long Island but hurt most. Under the amended proposal, the net effect is negative for all Long Island hospitals. What remains from the governor's original budget proposal is an increase in the gross receipts tax (GRT) on inpatient services, elimination of the Medicaid trend factor, a \$186 million cut to indigent care, and a proposed reimbursement cut to hospitals with high rates of readmission.

"The GRT was originally instituted as a temporary assessment. Yet, it is plainly a tax and now the governor seeks to make it permanent. This move alone will decimate Long Island's hospitals, as it represents nearly half of the proposed Medicaid cuts," said Kevin Dahill, president/CEO of the Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council (NSHC), the association that represents Long Island's hospitals.

Long Island's hospital administrators say these cuts – the seventh to occur in just two years – make the daily operation of a hospital

difficult and dangerous. These frequent disruptions in revenue affect staffing and services. Since April 2008, Long Island's hospitals have endured \$180 million in Medicaid cuts, according to the Healthcare Association of New York State (HANYS).

"In recent years, we've seen some maternity units eliminated, hundreds of hospital employees laid off, and a significant decrease in health screenings, educational programs, and related services that communities rely upon," said Dahill. "Little by little, Albany has eroded the foundation of hospital-based health care services on Long Island."

Website Lists Losses

Long Islanders can go to www.helpyourhospital.org - punch in their zip code, and see the dollars being drained from hospitals in their local community. The site includes the impact of the Governor's proposed budget and the cumulative financial impact of the previous six rounds of cuts. Users have the option to register their opposition to these cuts by sending an e-mail to their respective state legislators directly from this site.

Hospitals Helping Haiti

More than a month since the devastating earthquake hit Haiti, Long Island hospitals continue to do their part in the international relief effort. A contingent of physicians and nurses from **Nassau University Medical Center** were among hundreds of medical volunteers tending to the ill and injured in the ravaged country. Their experiences – both personal and medical – were recounted in a recent Newsday special feature. **Southampton Hospital**, one of Long Island's small

East End hospitals, sent a dozen medical doctors and nurses to the region and through an employee and friend campaign raised \$20,500 for the Red Cross Relief project. The **Catholic Health Services of Long Island**, which includes six hospitals, is continuing its fund raising effort for Haiti through Catholic Relief Services. **The North Shore-LIJ Health System** has already donated more than \$250,000 in medical supplies, equipment, and medications for earthquake victims.