



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Martin J. Golden

## State Senate Takes Action to Delay Implementation of New York's Electronic Prescribing Mandate

MARTIN J. GOLDEN February 10, 2015

Brooklyn – State Senator Martin J. Golden (R-C-I, Brooklyn) today is announcing that the New York State Senate has approved legislation he co-sponsored, (S. 2486), that would delay the requirement that all prescribers use electronic prescriptions until March 27, 2016.

Senator Marty Golden stated, “Without a doubt, New York State must convert to a system that requires e-prescribing of medications for all residents. However, in light of the concerns had by the medical professionals, I applaud my colleagues in the State Senate for their action today. This legislation, if approved by the Assembly, will allow more time so the transition is successful. 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 approve this legislation as well so that we can take immediate action for sake of the medical profession and all patients,” said Senator Golden.

The bill was sent to the Assembly.