



**New York State**  
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

**eat right.** an affiliate of the  
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

# MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

**S.2231-A Senator LaValle**  
**Provides for the licensure of dietitians & nutritionists**

The New York State Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (formerly, the New York State Dietetic Association) strongly supports legislation that provides for the licensure of nutrition and licensure of dietitians/nutritionists by Senator LaValle (S.2231-A).

Currently, dietitians and nutritionist are eligible for title certification through the New York State Education Department, pursuant to Article 157 of the Education Law. Certification provides protection of the title – Certified Dietitian/Nutritionist. However, certification alone does not protect the services provided by professional dietitians and nutritionists. Anyone, regardless of training or competency, may provide medical nutrition therapy and therapeutic diets as long as they do not call themselves a “Certified Dietitian” or “Certified Nutritionist”. The lack of regulatory oversight and protection of the practice of dietetics and nutrition places the public at risk of unqualified practitioners.

In collaboration with nutritionists, this amended bill seeks to ensure that all professionals – nutritionists and dietitian/nutritionists providing medical nutrition therapy and therapeutic diets meet certain education, experience and examination requirement to engage in the practice of dietitians and nutritionists.

## NOTEWORTHING:

While the legislation seeks to ensure that practitioners who provide Medical Nutrition Therapy (a Federally defined and CMS regulated) and Therapeutic Diets (federally defined and CMS regulated) – the bill **DOES NOT** seek to limit individuals, such as health coaches or athletic trainers, from providing non-medical nutrition information or non-medical individualized nutrition recommendations (see #3 under exemptions). Exemption language is included to ensure that non-licensed individuals can still engage in primary prevention and the marketing of food and nutrients with their clients.

The New York State Academy of Nutrition and Dietetic is a professional membership organization comprised of approximately 6,000 specialty-trained health care dietetic/nutrition professional. NYSAND advocates for the use of science-based information on nutrition, the public promotion of optimal nutrition, health and well-being.

The ***New York State Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics*** strongly encourages your support of licensure for dietetics and nutrition.

For more information contact Heather G. Evans at [hevans@hinmanstraub.com](mailto:hevans@hinmanstraub.com) or (518) 436-0751