Reform Medicaid ***Now***

To:

Governor George Pataki
Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno
Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver
Senator Raymond Meier
Senator Nancy Larraine Hoffmann
Assemblywoman RoAnn Destito
Assemblyman William Magee
Assemblyman David Townsend

On behalf of the people of Oneida County and all of New York State who are impacted by the soaring costs of Medicaid and its growing burden on local governments, I call upon you to fix the state's badly broken Medicaid program.

The people of Oneida County need immediate fiscal relief from the ever-increasing burden that Medicaid places on the local taxpayer as well as long-term reforms to end the years of ever-increasing costs.

Because of Medicaid, county dollars that could help grow jobs and increase our quality of life are directed at paying mandated costs for Medicaid services. Without the burden of Medicaid, our county property taxes could be lower, helping to create new jobs.

Action is essential. A number of proposals exist to reform Medicaid. The tools exist to fix this problem. Please use them to bring this program back into balance and end its unending drain of local and state tax dollars. Providing health care to our poor is a goal that should not be abandoned. However, how we finance and control this program must also be fair to those who must pay for it.

Reform Medicaid now!

NAME	STREET	CITY/TOWN/VILLAGE

Return Completed Petition to: **Oneida County Executive Joseph A. Griffo**
Oneida County Office Building,
800 Park Ave., Utica, NY 13501