

**To the Honorable Governor Hochul,**

I urge you to consider the facts surrounding the proposed Grieving Families Act (GFA) amid the flood of opinions from insurance companies. These entities may assert that the GFA will lead to increased premiums and a surge in wrongful death claims, but I challenge you to ask them for concrete studies to support their assertions. You'll find that no credible evidence backs their claims.

The opinion that the GFA will adversely impact insurers is influential and, on the surface, may seem factual. However, it is merely a shallow sales pitch designed to uncaringly hurt New Yorkers who have been harmed or killed due to the negligence of healthcare providers. Here is an example:

***The GFA's Impact on New York Insurers***

*From an insurance claims standpoint, if passed, the GFA is expected to drastically increase the number of wrongful death claims and filings across the state, expanding the potential scope of damages, the number of potential claimants, and the period of time permitted to commence legal action. The practical effect of the GFA's revisions almost guarantees increased legal defense costs, settlement dollars, and administration for wrongful death claims in New York.*

In contrast, extensive research indicates that reforms like the GFA significantly reduce medical errors and improve accountability within the healthcare system. For instance, studies from institutions like Johns Hopkins show that the kind of reform proposed in the GFA can quickly put an end to negligence in healthcare. When providers know they can be held accountable, they are more vigilant—much like catching someone with their hand in the cookie jar.

Your leadership can set a transformative precedent in New York, addressing the real issues within our healthcare system rather than succumbing to unfounded fears. The GFA represents an opportunity to safeguard our families and honor those we have lost—like my son—due to systemic failures.

Please visit **YesGFA.com** for evidence-based information that supports these claims. Let's work together to ensure that New Yorkers receive the safe and compassionate care they deserve.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,

**Bill Smith**

**[Bill@YesGFA.com](mailto:Bill@YesGFA.com)**