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## **STATEMENT FROM NYSACHO PRESIDENT PAUL PETTIT**

### **LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIALS LAUD SENATE PASSAGE OF BILL RAISING LEGAL TOBACCO PURCHASE AGE TO 21**

### **MEASURE NOW AWAITS GOVERNOR'S SIGNATURE**

(Albany, New York. April 4, 2019) “The Senate’s recent passage of Tobacco 21 legislation is another critical and historic step in our fight to prevent millions of New Yorkers from developing tobacco related illnesses. Both houses have now passed the bill and the governor has announced that he plans to sign it into law. We enthusiastically await his action and thank him for his support of this lifesaving measure.

“We are grateful for the leadership of Senator Diane Savino and Assemblywoman Linda Rosenthal who sponsored this legislation in their respective houses, and who worked tirelessly to ensure its passage.

“NYSACHO and our members will continue to provide expertise and support to help lawmakers craft policy that protects and improves public health, and we look forward to more public health victories in the remainder of the legislative session.”

*Paul Pettit is the President of NYSACHO, which represents all 58 of New York State’s local health departments. He also serves as Public Health Director for the Genesee and Orleans County Health Departments.*

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