

SEEKING LEGISLATION ALLOWING MEDICARE TO NEGOTIATE DRUG PRICES

1 WHEREAS, prescription drugs are a major factor in the rising cost of employer provided health
2 insurance; and

3 WHEREAS, the cost of prescriptions has a major effect on disposable income of seniors and
4 therefore on their quality of life; and

5 WHEREAS, many seniors are forced to choose between medicine and food, sometimes forcing
6 them to skip or reduce dosages resulting in deteriorating health and leading to increased health
7 care costs; and

8 WHEREAS, the VA already exists as a successful model for negotiating drug prices; and

9 WHEREAS, the same drug by the same manufacturer can be purchased for significantly less in
10 other countries; therefore be it

11 **RESOLVED, that NYSUT and its national affiliates, the American Federation of Teachers,**
12 **the National Education Association and the AFL-CIO continue to seek legislation which**
13 **allows Medicare to negotiate drug prices.**