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**For Immediate Release**

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## **BINGHAMTON'S ELDERLY AND DISABLED SUFFER UNDER NEW MEDICAID BILL**

-New York chapter president of national senior group in Binghamton March 30<sup>th</sup>-

**New York, NY** – Thousands of low-income and elderly New Yorkers will have to pay more for health care under a new bill recently approved by the House of Representatives. Some will have to drop out of Medicaid completely because of the higher co-payments and premiums.

President George Bush signed the Medicaid eligibility requirements into law as part of the larger Deficit Reduction Act. The law will impose punitive restrictions on any American who applies for federal Medicaid assistance to pay for nursing home expenses.

“It is now more important than ever for older generations who might need nursing home care to plan ahead for their future healthcare and financial needs,” commented Bernard A. Krooks, President of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, New York Chapter – a national non-profit organization devoted to the needs of seniors ([www.naela.org](http://www.naela.org)) and founding partner of Littman Krooks LLP.

**Krooks will be in Binghamton speaking about the Deficit Reduction Act on Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> from noon to 1pm at Security Mutual Life Insurance of New York - 100 Court Street. He will be available for interviews.**

“The Baby Boomer generation will have to adjust their financial planning strategy if they want to protect future charitable opportunities,” Krooks said. “Under this law, older Americans will be penalized for providing their grandchildren with assistance for college or helping their children with a down-payment on a new home. Everything is fair game.”

Please contact Natalie Klein at 917.673.9333 for more information.

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