











ISSUES OF UNITED CONCERN

Legislation

- 1. <u>Expanded Cancer Coverage</u> Provides a rebuttable presumption that several types of cancer are covered under VFBL and VAWBL.
- 2. Fair Play Ambulance Cost Recovery for Fire Departments Allows all fire departments and fire districts to bill for ambulance services to even the playing field with all other ambulance providers across the state.
- 3. <u>Illegal Building Conversions</u> The IUC supports the continuation of discussions and cooperation with the New York Department of State and the New York State Office of Fire Prevention Control to address the issue of illegal building conversions which endanger residents of the illegally converted buildings and fire firefighters. The IUC further supports any regulatory or legislative initiatives that result from these discussions.
- 4. <u>VFBL/VAWBL Increase</u> Provides for an increase in VFBL/VAWBL temporary total disability benefit levels from \$400 to \$650 per week for those volunteer firefighters or ambulance workers injured after July 1, 2017.
- 5. <u>Fire Apparatus Lemon Law</u> Provides that Fire and E.M.S vehicles and apparatus be included under the New York State Lemon Law.
- 6. <u>Upholstered Furniture Fire Safety Standards</u> Enhances fire safety standards for upholstered furniture by methods that do not require the use of cancer causing fire retardants.

Budget

1. Additional Funding for Firefighter 1 Training — The IUC supports inclusion of additional funding in the 2017/2018 New York State Budget to support the Office of Fire Prevention Control's ability to provide more blended Firefighter 1 training using modern technologies as this funding will further enhance the ability of municipalities to recruit volunteer firefighters.