

**2017-2018 BILLS RELATED TO THE FIRE SERVICE UPDATED 1/24/18**

**16409** Bills have been introduced this session

Approx 55 days left in the 2018Session



**ASSOCIATION OF  
FIRE DISTRICTS**  
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Senate Bill #	Assembly Bill #	Status	Description	United Concern?	Support Status
<b>Bills Signed in the 2017 Session</b>					
S1411A GRIFFO	A711A GUNTHER	6/19/17 PASSED SENATE 6/20/17 PASSED ASSEMBLY	An act to amend the general municipal law and the tax law, in relation to the "New York state volunteer firefighter gap coverage cancer disability benefits act" To create the New York State Volunteer Firefighter Gap Coverage Cancer Disability Benefits Act to provide volunteer firefighters who develop certain forms of cancer with enhanced disability benefits.	Y	Signed 10/22/17 Chap 334
S6636 GOLDEN	A8249 HARRIS	6/21/17 PASSED SENATE 6/21/17 PASSED ASSEMBLY	The purpose of this bill is to help reduce the incidence of illegal conversions by requiring landlords to disclose to tenants that a certificate of occupancy is current and valid for the property being rented.	Y	Signed 11/17/17 Chap 446
S1022 FUNKE	A6756 MORELLE	2/14/17 PASSED SENATE 5/24/17 PASSED ASSEMBLY	Establishes a person who intentionally obstructs the efforts of any firefighter performing emergency medical care on a sick or injured person is guilty of the crime of obstructing firefighting operations.	N	Signed 7/25/17 Chapter 124
S1642 CARLUCCI	A1310 ZEBROWSKI	3/22/17 PASSED ASSEMBLY 3/29/17 PASSED SENATE	<b>PROVIDES FOR THE SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION OF CODE ENFORCEMENT CERTIFICATION FOR FAILING TO UPHOLD THE DUTIES OF A CEO INCLUDING ERRORS OR OMISSIONS AFTER A HEARING.</b>	N	Signed 12/18/17 Chap.468
S724A O'MARA	A2290C MORELLE	6/13/17 PASSED SENATE 6/15/17 PASSED ASSEMBLY	The purpose of this bill is to eliminate the regulatory "patchwork" that presently exists with counties in New York State by exempting "sparkling devices" from the definition of "fireworks" and "dangerous fireworks" in those counties that have not previously opted by local law pursuant to paragraph (b) of subdivision five of section 405.00 of chapter 477.	N	Signed 10/23/17 Chap 371
S899 CROCI	A3513 MURRAY	3/13/17 PASSED SENATE 6/20/17 PASSED ASSEMBLY	Changes the volunteer ambulance service award program to require a mandatory referendum for certain changes and authorizes a lowering of the entitlement to age 55.	N	Signed 11/29/17 Chap 426
S5785 MARCHIONE	A7089 MAGNARELLI	6/15/17 PASSED SENATE 6/6/17 PASSED ASSEMBLY	The purpose of the bill is to increase transparency relating to the contract negotiation process for fire protection contracts between incorporated fire companies and fire districts, towns or villages.	N	Signed 9/12/17 Chap 294

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S6415 HELMING	A7942 GUNTHER	5/22/17 PASSED SENATE 6/21/17 PASSED ASSEMBLY	Authorizes firefighters who are members of a fire company or department of another state to offer and provide their services to volunteer fire <i>companies or departments</i> in New York State.	N	Signed 7/25/17 Chapter 155
<b>NYS Fire Service Alliance Issues of United Concern</b>					
S3904 GRIFFO	A6367A MAGNARELLI	1/3/18 REF TO LOCAL GOVT 1/16/18 AMENDED ON THIRD READING 6367A	<b>Increase VFBL and VAWBL Benefits</b> Provides total disability benefits or temporary total disability for volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers for injuries sustained on or after July 1, 2017 will receive \$650 weekly.	Y	
S363A LITTLE	A7717A JONES	1/3/18 REF TO LOCAL GOVT 1/3/18 ASSM LOCAL GOVT COMMITTEE	<b>Cost Recovery for fire department ambulance service.</b> Provides that authorities having control of a fire department or fire company which provide emergency medical services may establish fees and charges for services	Y	
S742 RITCHIE	A3368 BRINDISI	1/3/18 SEN ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION 1/3/18 ORDERED TO THIRD READING	<b>Upholstered Furniture Safety Standards</b> Prohibits the use of chemical flame retardants on residential upholstered furniture.	Y	
S774 CARLUCCI	A1490 ZEBROWSKI	1/3/18 SEN HOUSING CONST AND COMM DEVELOPMENT COMM 1/3/18 ASSM GOVT OPERATIONS	<b>Endangering the welfare of fire and emergency personnel</b> Expands remedies for violations of New York State uniform fire prevention and building code. The bill increases fines for code violations which create an immediate threat to the safety and welfare of the occupants.	Y	
			<b>Enact a Lemon Law for Fire Apparatus</b>		
S6242A AKSHAR	A8057A ABBATE	1/3/18 REFER TO SEN CIVIL SERVICE AND PENSIONS 1/3/18 ORDERED TO 3 <sup>RD</sup> READING	<b>Training for Fire Chiefs</b> To require all fire chiefs in any fire department with one more paid fire fighters to have minimum qualifications. This legislation creates critical, yet basic, education, health and physical fitness training benchmarks for fire chiefs in any fire department, fire district, or fire protection district that employs one or more paid fire fighters in areas outside of New York City. In addition, this legislation required a minimum of five years as a lieutenant or higher prior to being promoted to chief. This ensures a transition where fire chiefs are learning necessary leadership skills at different levels within the organization. Currently, in New York State there are no training requirements to become a fire chief of a combination department (mix of volunteers and professional firefighters). This potential lack of training or understanding of fire situations can seriously jeopardize the lives of the brave men		 <b>OPPOSE! TOO MANY UNANSWERED QUESTIONS</b>  THIS WAS A PFFA SPONSORED BILL



			and women on the scene of a fire under the direction of the chief. IF PASSED THIS WOULD ELIMINATE VOLUNTEER CHIEFS IN COMBINATION DEPARTMENTS OR ANY DEPARTMENT THAT MIGHT HAVE PAID ON CALL FIREFIGHTERS IN THE FUTURE.		
<b>TWO CHAMBER BILLS</b>					
<b>S5684 SAVINO</b>	<b>A2595 BRINDISI</b>	<b>1/3/18 REF SEN CONSUMER PROTECTION 1/3/18 ASSM ECONOMIC DEVEL COMM</b>	<b>REQUIRES LICENSING FOR THE LAYOUT, INSTALLATION, SERVICING, REPAIRING, INSPECTING, TESTING AND MAINTAINING AUTOMATIC WATER-BASED FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS</b>  <b>(AS WRITTEN COULD DRIVE UP COST OF RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLERS – NFPA 12 D SPRINKLERS FOR 1 &amp; 2 FAMILY HOMES SHOULD NOT BE INCLUDED.)</b>	<b>N</b>	
<b>S756 RITCHIE</b>	<b>A9530 WOERNER</b>	<b>1/3/18 REF TO SENATE INVESTIGATIONS AND GOVT OPERATION 1/3/18 REF TO ASSM WAYS AND MEANS</b>	<b>Gives state income tax credit to volunteer firefighters and members of a volunteer ambulance corps in good standing up to \$1200</b>	<b>N</b>	
<b>S1185 MARCELLINO</b>	<b>A7612 THIELE</b>	<b>1/3/18 REF SEN CULTURAL AFFAIRS, TOURISM, PARKS &amp; RECREATION 1/3/18 REF TO ASSM TRANSPORTATION COMM</b>	Exempts operators of law enforcement and fire department vessels from laws which regulate vessels on the navigable waters of the state while responding to emergencies	<b>N</b>	
<b>S1195 AVELLA</b>	<b>A1451 CAHILL</b>	<b>1/3/18 REF TO SEN LOCAL GOVT 1/13/18 ASSM LOCAL GOVT COMM</b>	Establishes the payment of certain volunteer firefighter and volunteer ambulance worker death benefits shall be within ninety days of the filing of application to receive such death benefit	<b>N</b>	
<b>S1114A AKSHAR</b>	<b>A2962A ABBATE</b>	<b>1/16/18 ADVANCED TO 3<sup>RD</sup> READING 1/3/18 REF TO ASSM CODES</b>	Designates offenses against law enforcement officers, firefighters and emergency medical services personnel as hate crimes.	<b>N</b>	
<b>S1027 BONACIC</b>	<b>A386 GUNTHER</b>	<b>1/3/18 REF TO SEN TRANSPORTATION 1/3/18 ASSM TRANSPORTATION COMM</b>	Currently, organizations are only allowed to solicit for funds on public highways within a city or village. Many people fundraising in small towns on behalf of these organizations may be unknowingly breaking the law. This bill provides an exception to the prohibition on soliciting on highways outside cities and villages by allowing fire companies, volunteer ambulance services and non-profit organizations to do so as long as the town has not passed a local law prohibiting it.	<b>N</b>	

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S1994A OMARA	A4389A PALMESANO	1/8/18 AMEND AND RECOMMIT TO INVESTIGATIONS AND GOVT 1/10/18 AMEND AND RECOMMIT TO ASSM WAYS AND MEANS	Enacts the "omnibus emergency services volunteer incentive act" to provide benefits to volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers; increases the personal income tax deduction after four or more years of service; exempts motor vehicles used in the performance of such volunteers' duties from registration fees, use taxes and special fees for volunteer license plates; authorizes the provision of municipal health insurance coverage to such volunteers; establishes a volunteer recruitment service loan forgiveness program.	N	
S376 ORTT	A4715 ENGLEBRIGHT	1/8/18 REF TO SEN HIGHER EDUCATION 1/3/18 REF TO ASSM HIGHER EDUCATION	Extends tuition free course benefits to volunteer firefighters or volunteer ambulance workers. To allow active volunteer firefighters and active volunteer ambulance workers to audit courses at the State University of New York (SUNY) and at community colleges on a tuition-free basis.	N	
S6178 BROOKS	A1226 ZEBROWSKI	1/3/18 REFERRED TO HOUSING, CONST AND COMM DEVELOPMENT 1/3/18 ORDERED TO 3 <sup>RD</sup> READING	Civil penalties for illegal building alterations where egress is impeded during a fire, \$7,500	Y	
S1423 AVELLA	A5378 CAHILL	1/3/18 SEN HOUSING, CONST & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 1/3/18 ASSM GOVT OPERATIONS	Requires colleges and universities to construct and retrofit sprinkler systems in all dormitories.	N	
S1815 KENNEDY	A6897 DENDECKER	1/3/18 SEN INVESTIGATIONS AND GOVT OPERATIONS COMM 1/3/18 ASSM WAYS AND MEANS	Exempts the amount of any service award paid to any volunteer firefighter or ambulance worker from personal income tax.	N	
S1707 MARCHIONE	A3799 JAFFEE	1/3/18 SEN LOCAL GOVT COMM 1/3/18 ASSM WAYS AND MEANS	<b>ENACTS THE TWO PERCENT IS TWO PERCENT PROPERTY TAX CAP ACT, RELATING TO THE FORMULA FOR THE REAL PROPERTY TAX CAP</b>	N	
S4562 LITTLE	A6824 HUNTER	1/3/18 SEN COMM ON HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION & COMM DEVELOPMENT 1/3/18 REFERRED TO ASSM CODES	Directs the State Fire Prevention and Building Code Council to adopt the most current version of the building, fire prevention and energy codes within 12 months of publication.	N	
S2978 LAVALLE	A2344 THIELE	1/3/18 ASSM JUDICIARY COMM 1/3/18 SEN JUDICIARY COMM	Gives justice courts limited equity powers to compel compliance with local zoning, building and fire prevention codes; grants justice courts the authority to issue injunctions and temporary restraining orders relating thereto.	N	

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S5698 LAVALLE	A7459 MAGEE	1/3/18 REF TO SEN LOCAL GOVT 1/3/18 ASSM WAYS AND MEANS	Relates to compensation for Fire District Election Inspectors	Y	
S1654 CARLICCI	A3492 BRINDISI	1/3/18 SEN HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 1/3/18 ASSM GOVT OPERATIONS COMM	Establishes installation and maintenance standards for gas station fire suppression systems in opposition of what is in the current IFC which does not include such systems anywhere in the nation. The legislature is again in the codes business bowing to lobby pressure.	N	
S745 RITCHIE	A732 GUNTHER	1/3/18 SEN LOCAL GOVERNMENT 1/3/18 ASSM REAL PROPERTY TAXATION	Relates to state aid for certain cities, towns, villages or fire districts adversely affected by a concentration of tax exempt property. Section 1 amends the Real Property Tax Law by adding a new Section 532-a providing that for any city, town, village, or fire district to be eligible for a new category of state aid at least 35 percent of the real property in the city, town, village, or fire district, by value, must be exempt from taxation. The funds available to assist eligible cities, towns, villages, or fire districts are allocated based on a formula. Fifty percent of the distribution is based on the town's population. The remaining 50 percent is based on the amount of tax exempt property in the town.	N	
S3519 FLANAGAN	A3885 DENDEKKER	1/3/18 REF TO SEN INVESTIGATIONS AND GOVT OPS 1/3/18 ASSM WAYS AND MEANS COMM	TAX CREDIT FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SPRINKLERS IN RESIDENTIAL OCCUPANCIES 25% OF LABOR AND MATERIALS IN COMMUNITIES WHERE SPRINKLERS ARE NOT ALREADY REQUIRED	N	
S2907 RITCHIE	A1669 ZEBROWSKI	1/3/18 SEN INVESTIGATIONS AND GOVT OPS COMM 1/3/18 ASSM WAYS AND MEANS	Provides tax credit to certain volunteer firefighters, volunteer ambulance workers and volunteer emergency medical personnel	N	
S2757 LAVALLE	A6182 PALUMBO	1/3/18 SEN LOCAL GOVT COMMITTEE 1/3/18 ASSM REAL PROPERTY TAXATION	To cease the real property tax exemptions covering fire and Emergency services granted to Industrial Development Agency projects in <b>Suffolk County</b> .	N	
S1423 AVELLA	A5378 CAHILL	1/3/18 SEN HOUSING, CONST AND COMM DEVELOPMENT COMM 1/3/18 ASSM GOVT OPERATIONS	Requires colleges and universities to construct and retrofit sprinkler systems in all dormitories	N	

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<b>TOXIC BILLS</b>					
S3047 LITTLE	A5058 GALEF	1/3/18 SEN LOCAL GOVT COMMITTEE 1/3/18 ASSM LOCAL GOVT COMMITTEE	Sets forth provisions for absentee ballots for fire district elections and improvement district elections.	N	
No same as	A959 GALEF	1/3/18 ELECTION LAW	The county boards of elections will assume the responsibility for overseeing fire district elections. Such elections will take place on the days of village and town elections and in the registered voters' regular polling place. The fire district governing boards will provide the county boards of elections with the information necessary to administer such fire district elections. Voter access to fire district elections will increase as the fire district elections will take place on a date and location familiar to all voters, additional voting hours are provided and absentee ballot applications will be available.	N	
No same as	A1896 ABINANTI	1/3/18 ASSM LOCAL GOVT COMM	Requires the election of fire district commissioners to take place on the same date and at the same location as elections of school board members.	N	
S2065 LAVALLE	No same as	1/3/18 SEN LOCAT GOVT COMM	ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR FIRE DISTRICT ELECTIONS	N	
S1716 CARLUCCI	No same as	1/3/18 SEN LOCAL GOVT	The goal of this bill is to allow villages to dissolve but allow for continued services to a resulting Hamlet without resorting to the creation of other districts, such as water or fire districts, within the Town. This gives village residents a level of safety and comfort when confronting a decision on whether or not to dissolve a village.	N	
<b>SENATE BILLS</b>					
S7443 LITTLE	NO SAME AS	1/18/18 SEN LOCAL GOVT	This bill would authorize municipalities to establish a special district for general ambulance services, and would require a report by the commissioner of the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services to identify challenges	N	



			<b>concerning volunteer emergency services or personnel.</b>		
S2252 LITTLE	NO SAME AS	1/3/18 REF TO SEN LOCAL GOVT NO SAME AS	Authorizes the town board of any town, which does not have a fire district, to establish and operate a town fire department	N	
S1357 AVELLA	No same as	1/3/18-SEN CODES COMM	Establishes the class C felony of illegal conversion or alteration of real property	N	
S369 LITTLE	No same as	1/3/18 SEN LOCAL GOVT COMM	Authorizes fire districts to impose ad valorem levies and special assessments on otherwise tax exempt real property	N	
S892 AMEDORE	No same as	1/3/18 SEN LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS	Requires that 1/4% of the state sales tax collected in rural counties be paid to such counties for infrastructure, fire fighting, emergency services and senior services	N	
S1224A AKSHAR	No same as	1/3/18 REF TO SEN INVESTIGATIONS AND GOVT OPS	Relates to increasing the volunteer firefighters' and ambulance workers' credit; increases the amount of the credit from \$200 to \$500 for single filers who have served for less than five years and from \$200 to \$1,000 for single filers who serve at least five years and from \$400 to \$1,000 for spouses filing jointly where one spouse has served less than five years and from \$400 to \$2,000 for spouses filing jointly who have each served at least five years.	N	
S756 RITCHIE	No same as	1/3/18 - SEN INVESTIGATIONS AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS	Gives state income tax credit to volunteer firefighters and members of a volunteer ambulance corps in good standing up to \$1200; must be in good standing for a minimum of five years and maintain continued eligibility.	N	
S1808 KENNEDY	No same as	1/3/18 SEN HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	This bill would require a minimum of one test per hydrant, per year.	N	
S1734 CARLUCCI	No same as	1/3/18 SEN EDUCATION COMM	Amends education law to withhold funding and grants to private schools that do not file the annual fire safety report in a timely manner.	N	
S1437 RITCHIE	No same as	1/3/18 SEN CORPORATIONS, AUTHORITIES AND COMMISSIONS	Requires public utility companies to charge volunteer ambulance corps and volunteer fire departments the same rates and charges applicable to residential customers.	N	






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<b>S6838 PERALTA</b>	<b>No same as</b>	<b>1/3/18 SENATE FINANCE</b>	Establishes the deceased police officer, CAREER firefighter and emergency medical services family housing assistance program, and appropriates \$10,000,000 therefore.	<b>N</b>	No position
<b>ASSEMBLY BILLS</b>					
<b>No same as</b>	<b>A1566 HAWLEY</b>	<b>1/3/18 ASSM ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION COMM</b>	Prohibits the DEC from restricting the burning of garbage, refuse or rubbish in an open fire	<b>N</b>	
<b>No Same As</b>	<b>A235 GUNTHER</b>	<b>1/3/18 SEN REAL PROPERTY TAXATION</b>	Authorizes fire districts to impose ad valorem levies and special assessments on otherwise tax exempt real property.	<b>N</b>	
<b>No same as</b>	<b>A1233 ABINANTI</b>	<b>1/3/18 ASSM LOCAL GOVT</b>	Would allow Elmsford to charge for EMS fees	<b>N</b>	<b>NO POSITION</b>
<b>No same as</b>	<b>A693 MAGNARELLI</b>	<b>1/3/18 ASSM LOCAL GOVT COMM</b>	Provides coverage for certain physical fitness programs to volunteer firefighters	<b>N</b>	
<b>No same as</b>	<b>A1275 CROUCH</b>	<b>1/3/18 ASSM WAYS AND MEANS</b>	Gives state income tax credit to volunteer firefighters and members of a volunteer ambulance corps in good standing up to \$2500	<b>N</b>	
<b>No same as</b>	<b>A2215 CROUCH</b>	<b>1/3/18 ASSM GOVERNMENTAL OPS</b>	Establishes a fire prevention and emergency task force to develop a plan for training requirements and standards for fire prevention and emergency response services in rural areas.	<b>N</b>	
<b>NO SAME AS</b>	<b>A5610</b>	<b>4/25/17 HELD FOR CONSIDERATION IN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS</b>	Permits village volunteer fire companies in certain counties to enter into contracts to provide certain emergency services to a town in which the village is located without the consent of the village board or fire commissioners.	<b>N</b>	<b>NO POSITION</b>