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S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

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I N S E N A T E

April 4, 2008

Introduced by Sens. GRIFFO, ALESI, BONACIC, DeFRANCISCO, LARKIN, LITTLE, MALTESE, RATH, SEWARD, TRUNZO, VOLKER, YOUNG -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Local Government

AN ACT to amend the volunteer firefighters` benefit law and the volunteer ambulance workers` benefit law, in relation to leave from work for municipal employees responding to fire and ambulance calls

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. The volunteer firefighters` benefit law is amended by
 2 adding a new section 4-a to read as follows:
 3 S 4-A. LEAVE FROM WORK FOR RESPONDING TO CALLS. 1. ANY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE
 4 WHO IS AN ACTIVE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER:
 5 A. MAY BE PERMITTED TO LEAVE WORK IN ORDER TO RESPOND TO FIRE CALLS OR
 6 AMBULANCE CALLS DURING SUCH EMPLOYEE`S REGULAR HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT WITH-
 7 OUT PREJUDICE TO OPPORTUNITY FOR PROMOTION OR CONTINUED EMPLOYMENT, AND
 8 WITHOUT BEING CHARGED HOURS AGAINST SICK TIME, PERSONAL TIME, VACATION
 9 TIME OR COMPENSATORY TIME OR ANY OTHER ACCRUED TIME; AND
 10 B. SHALL BE PERMITTED TO RESPOND TO SUCH CALLS PRIOR TO REPORTING FOR
 11 WORK WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO OPPORTUNITY FOR PROMOTION OR CONTINUED EMPLOY-
 12 MENT, AND WITHOUT BEING CHARGED HOURS AGAINST SICK TIME, PERSONAL TIME,
 13 VACATION TIME OR COMPENSATORY TIME OR ANY OTHER ACCRUED TIME.
 14 2. THE BENEFITS SET FORTH IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION SHALL
 15 ONLY BE AFFORDED TO A PUBLIC EMPLOYEE WHEN:
 16 A. IF REQUESTED BY THE PUBLIC EMPLOYER, SUCH EMPLOYEE SUBMITS A WRIT-
 17 TEN STATEMENT FROM THE CHIEF OF THE FIRE COMPANY OR THE CHIEF OFFICER OF
 18 THE AMBULANCE COMPANY VERIFYING THAT SUCH EMPLOYEE RESPONDED TO A FIRE
 19 OR AMBULANCE CALL AND SPECIFYING THE DATE, TIME AND DURATION OF SUCH
 20 RESPONSE; AND
 21 B. SUCH EMPLOYEE`S LEAVE FROM WORK DOES NOT RESULT IN SUCH PUBLIC
 22 EMPLOYER`S FAILURE TO MEET MINIMUM REQUIRED STAFFING LEVELS.
 23 3. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING TERMS SHALL HAVE THE
 24 FOLLOWING MEANINGS:

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets { } is old law to be omitted.

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1 A. "AMBULANCE COMPANY" SHALL HAVE THE MEANING SET FORTH IN SUBDIVISION
 2 TWO OF SECTION THREE OF THE VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE WORKERS` BENEFIT LAW;
 3 B. "PUBLIC EMPLOYEE" SHALL MEAN A PERSON WHO IS EMPLOYED BY A PUBLIC
 4 EMPLOYER; AND
 5 C. "PUBLIC EMPLOYER" SHALL MEAN:
 6 I. THE STATE OF NEW YORK;
 7 II. A COUNTY, CITY, TOWN, VILLAGE OR ANY OTHER POLITICAL SUBDIVISION
 8 OR CIVIL DIVISION OF THE STATE;
 9 III. A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR ANY GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY OPERATING A PUBLIC
 10 SCHOOL, COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY;
 11 IV. A PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT OR SPECIAL DISTRICT;
 12 V. A PUBLIC AUTHORITY, COMMISSION OR PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATION; OR
 13 VI. ANY OTHER PUBLIC CORPORATION, AGENCY, INSTRUMENTALITY OR UNIT OF
 14 GOVERNMENT WHICH EXERCISES GOVERNMENTAL POWER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE
 15 STATE.
 16 S 2. The article heading of article 1 of the volunteer ambulance work-
 17 ers` benefit law is amended to read as follows:

18 SHORT TITLE; PURPOSE; DEFINITIONS; MISCELLANEOUS
 19 S 3. The volunteer ambulance workers` benefit law is amended by adding
 20 a new section 4 to read as follows:
 21 S 4. LEAVE FROM WORK FOR RESPONDING TO CALLS. 1. ANY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE
 22 WHO IS AN ACTIVE VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE WORKER:
 23 A. MAY BE PERMITTED TO LEAVE WORK IN ORDER TO RESPOND TO FIRE CALLS OR
 24 AMBULANCE CALLS DURING SUCH EMPLOYEE`S REGULAR HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT WITH-
 25 OUT PREJUDICE TO OPPORTUNITY FOR PROMOTION OR CONTINUED EMPLOYMENT, AND
 26 WITHOUT BEING CHARGED HOURS AGAINST SICK TIME, PERSONAL TIME, VACATION
 27 TIME OR COMPENSATORY TIME OR ANY OTHER ACCRUED TIME; AND
 28 B. SHALL BE PERMITTED TO RESPOND TO SUCH CALLS PRIOR TO REPORTING FOR
 29 WORK WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO OPPORTUNITY FOR PROMOTION OR CONTINUED EMPLOY-
 30 MENT, AND WITHOUT BEING CHARGED HOURS AGAINST SICK TIME, PERSONAL TIME;
 31 VACATION TIME OR COMPENSATORY TIME OR ANY OTHER ACCRUED TIME.
 32 2. THE BENEFITS SET FORTH IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION SHALL
 33 ONLY BE AFFORDED TO A PUBLIC EMPLOYEE WHEN:
 34 A. IF REQUESTED BY THE PUBLIC EMPLOYER, SUCH EMPLOYEE SUBMITS A WRIT-
 35 TEN STATEMENT FROM THE CHIEF OF THE FIRE COMPANY OR THE CHIEF OFFICER OF
 36 THE AMBULANCE COMPANY VERIFYING THAT SUCH EMPLOYEE RESPONDED TO A FIRE
 37 OR AMBULANCE CALL AND SPECIFYING THE DATE, TIME AND DURATION OF SUCH
 38 RESPONSE; AND
 39 B. SUCH EMPLOYEE`S LEAVE FROM WORK DOES NOT RESULT IN SUCH PUBLIC
 40 EMPLOYER`S FAILURE TO MEET MINIMUM REQUIRED STAFFING LEVELS.
 41 3. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING TERMS SHALL HAVE THE
 42 FOLLOWING MEANINGS:
 43 A. "FIRE COMPANY" SHALL HAVE THE MEANING SET FORTH IN SUBDIVISION TWO
 44 OF SECTION THREE OF THE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS` BENEFIT LAW;
 45 B. "PUBLIC EMPLOYEE" SHALL MEAN A PERSON WHO IS EMPLOYED BY A PUBLIC
 46 EMPLOYER; AND
 47 C. "PUBLIC EMPLOYER" SHALL MEAN:
 48 I. THE STATE OF NEW YORK;
 49 II. A COUNTY, CITY, TOWN, VILLAGE OR ANY OTHER POLITICAL SUBDIVISION
 50 OR CIVIL DIVISION OF THE STATE;
 51 III. A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR ANY GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY OPERATING A PUBLIC
 52 SCHOOL, COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY;
 53 IV. A PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT OR SPECIAL DISTRICT;
 54 V. A PUBLIC AUTHORITY, COMMISSION OR PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATION; OR

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1 VI. ANY OTHER PUBLIC CORPORATION, AGENCY, INSTRUMENTALITY OR UNIT OF
2 GOVERNMENT WHICH EXERCISES GOVERNMENTAL POWER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE
3 STATE.
4 S 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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