



## *First Responders, Volunteers & Veterans*

### The Assembly Republican Conference's Solutions for Taking Care of Those Who Keep Us Safe

#### **Homes for Heroes**

- Create or expand programs to help veterans purchase a home in New York State:
  - Expand the federal home loan guarantee to provide a tax credit for National Guard and Reserve veterans equal to the extra .75 percent active duty veterans receive (**A.2174, Hawley**).
  - Make the Affordable Home Ownership Development Program available to service-related disabled veterans (**A.4598, Hawley**).
  - Authorize the State Housing Finance Agency to provide home purchase and rehabilitation assistance loans of up to 20 percent of the value of the home to veterans (**A.1662, Hawley**).
  - Authorize SONYMA to purchase veterans assisted forward commitment loans from banks with low down payments and at favorable interest rates (**A.1714, Hawley**).

#### **Provide Benefits to Those Who Serve**

- Enact numerous proposals to recognize the sacrifice of first responders, volunteers, and veterans:
  - Provide a \$400 tax credit to volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers, exempt registration and use taxes for vehicles used in the performance of duty, create a loan forgiveness program, and provide some other benefits (**A.4239, Palmesano**).
  - Create a wage tax credit for employers who employ New York National Guard men and women, reservists, volunteer firefighters, and EMS personnel (**A.1700, Hawley**).
  - Extend the State Personal Income Tax exemption given to active duty troops stationed overseas to include New York residents stationed within the U.S. (**A.1956, Hawley**).
  - Allow the surviving dependent family members of New York State military personnel who have died, become permanently disabled, or classified as missing in action while on active duty to receive free tuition, room, and board at SUNY or CUNY institutions (**A.2991, Hawley**).
  - Provide for free hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses to residents of the State who are active duty members of the U.S. armed forces regardless of where such person is stationed (**A.5833, Giglio**).
  - Extend State benefits now offered to minority and women-owned business enterprises to honorably discharged veterans (**A.4490, Kolb**).
  - Waive Civil Service Examination application fees for veterans (**A.5897, Barclay**).