

# ASSEMBLY REPUBLICAN REVIEW COMMITTEE

Providing Support for  
those Who Protect And  
Serve New York State

## SERVING THOSE WHO SERVE US

Volunteer, Veterans, And First Responder Agenda  
Related Legislation

### Volunteer, Veterans, and First Responder Related Legislation

**Home Loan Guarantee:** Expand the Federal Home Loan Guarantee to provide a tax credit for National Guard and Reserve veterans equal to the extra 0.75% active duty veterans receive ([A.4253](#), [Hawley](#)).

**Affordable Home Ownership for Disabled Veterans:** Make the Affordable Home Ownership Development Program available to service-related disabled veterans ([A.1990](#), [Hawley](#)).

**Veterans Home, Rehabilitation, and Land Ownership Assistance Loans:** Authorize the State Housing Finance Agency to provide home purchase and rehabilitation assistance loans of up to 20% of the value of the home to veterans ([A.4307](#), [Hawley](#)).

**Veterans Assisted Forward Commitment Mortgages:** Authorize SONYMA to purchase veterans-assisted forward commitment loans from banks with low down payments and at favorable interest rates ([A.2066](#), [Hawley](#)).

**Veteran Nursing Home Study:** Direct the Department of Health to conduct a study on opening three new veterans' nursing homes in the State ([A.4162](#), [Manktelow](#)).

**Wage Tax Credit for Hiring Veterans and Emergency Services Personnel:** Create a wage tax credit for employers who employ New York National Guard men and women, reservists, volunteer firefighters, and EMS personnel ([A.2044](#), [Hawley](#)).

**Service-Disabled Veteran Benefits:** Allow veterans with a service-connected disability or Purple Heart to have free use of parks and campsites ([A.4181](#), [Manktelow](#)).

# Volunteer, Veterans, and First Responder Related Legislation

**Military Pay Income Tax Exemption Extension:** Extend the State Personal Income Tax exemption that is currently for active duty troops stationed overseas to include New York residents stationed within the U.S. ([A.1993, Hawley](#)).

**Green Alert System For Missing Military Members:** Establish a statewide green alert system for missing military members who have elected to join the system and who suffer from a mental illness, including post-traumatic stress disorder or a traumatic brain injury ([A.4163, Manktelow](#)).

**Omnibus Emergency Services Volunteer Incentive Act:** 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.5157, Palmesano](#)).

**New York State Volunteer Fire Protection Emergency Reimbursement Account:** Divert monies collected from the Public Safety Communications Surcharge into a newly created New York State Volunteer Fire Protection Reimbursement Account to be used to reimburse volunteer departments and emergency medical services for expenses incurred related to procuring personal protective equipment (PPE). Monies collected and deposited into the account may be used to reimburse volunteer fire departments and emergency medical services for lost revenue due to either municipal budget cuts or the cancellation of public events such as fundraisers or charity events ([A.4761, Norris](#)).

**Volunteer Firefighters Training:** Allow volunteer firefighters to attend training without being penalized by their employer; and create tax incentives for employing volunteer firefighters ([A.2267, Norris](#)).

**EMS and Volunteer Firefighters Income Tax Exemption:** Provide a State income tax exemption for qualifying volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers ([A.6310 of 2022, Tague](#)).

**PTSD Therapeutic Techniques:** Require the Office of Mental Health to conduct a study related to using therapeutic PTSD techniques ([A.2405, J.M. Giglio](#)).

# Volunteer, Veterans, and First Responder Related Legislation

**Health Care Peer Support Program:** Enact the “Health Care Worker Peer Support Program” to provide grants to eligible entities for the purpose of establishing peer-to-peer mental health programs for health care workers ([A.3702](#), [Manktelow](#)).

**PTSD Line of Duty Sick Leave:** Allow first responders who are diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder to request line of duty sick leave ([A.3701](#), [Bendett](#)).

**“New York’s Own Combat Veterans Health Care Choice Program Act”:** Establish tax-free savings accounts to pay the health care costs of certain combat veterans until covered by the federal government ([A.4178](#), [Manktelow](#)).

**Behavioral Health Website:** Require the Office of Mental Health, Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services, and the Department of Education to create a behavioral health website that shall provide information on various behavioral health issues such as depression, eating disorders, anxiety, schizophrenia, post-traumatic stress disorder, and bipolar disorder ([A.2906](#), [Reilly](#)).

**Leave of Absence for Military Spouses:** Expand leave of absence for military spouses by removing the requirement that leave be used when a person’s spouse is on leave, while deployed to a combat theater, or combat zone of operation ([A.1832](#), [Hawley](#)).

**Veterans’ Clearinghouse:** Create a veterans’ clearinghouse for purposes of identifying veterans eligible for benefits ([A.4551](#), [B. Miller](#)).

**Military Property Tax Relief:** Provide real property tax relief to veterans who have at least 10 years of service in the U.S. armed forces or in the NYS Militia ([A.2758](#), [Gandolfo](#)).

**Veterans’ Organization Capital Costs:** Allow for State grants to be used for capital costs of construction, improvement, rehabilitation, or reconstruction of facilities owned by veterans’ organizations ([A.7483 of 2022](#), [Ra](#)).