STATE OF NEW YORK

8111

IN SENATE

January 8, 2024

Introduced by Sen. MARTINEZ -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs

AN ACT to amend the veterans' services law, in relation to establishing the "Vets to Vollies" program

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The veterans' services law is amended by adding a new section 29-b to read as follows:

§ 29-b. Vets to vollies. 1. The department shall create a statewide vets to vollies program for counties that wish to participate in such program. The purpose of such program is to encourage veterans or discharged military personnel to join their local fire department or emergency medical service agency.

2. Such program shall collaborate and coordinate with all applicable county agencies to conduct extensive outreach programs within the local community, including but not limited to, active military installations and local veteran service organizations. Such outreach programs shall include information on the many benefits and resources available to prospective volunteer first responders on a local and statewide level and how to further become involved.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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