STATE OF NEW YORK

10237

IN ASSEMBLY

February 12, 2026

Introduced by M. of A. MIKULIN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the general municipal law and the executive law, in relation to battery storage fire training for firefighters

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

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 209-w of the general municipal law, as amended by section 10 of part A of chapter 101 of the laws of 2013, is amended to read as follows:

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general, special, or local law or charter to the contrary, no person shall, after the effective date of regulations adopted by the state fire administrator pursuant to section one hundred fifty-eight of the executive law, receive an original appointment on a permanent basis as a fire fighter of any county, city, town, village, or fire district unless such person has previously been awarded a certificate by the state fire administrator attesting to [~~his or her~~] **such person's** satisfactory completion of an approved fire basic training program **and an approved battery storage fire training program**; and every person who is appointed on a temporary basis or for a probationary term or on other than a permanent basis as a fire fighter of any county, city, town, village or fire district shall forfeit [~~his or her~~] **such person's** position as such unless [~~he or she~~] **such person** previously has satisfactorily completed, or within the time prescribed by regulations promulgated by the state fire administrator pursuant to section one hundred fifty-eight of the executive law, satisfactorily completes, a fire basic training program **and an approved battery storage fire training program** for temporary or probationary fire fighters and is awarded a certificate by the state fire administrator attesting thereto.

§ 2. Section 158 of the executive law, as added by section 28 of part B of chapter 56 of the laws of 2010, is amended to read as follows:

§ 158. Firefighting training. 1. For the purpose of this section, the term fire fighter shall mean a member of a fire department whose duties

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

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include fire service as defined in paragraph d of subdivision eleven of section three hundred two of the retirement and social security law.

2. In addition to the functions, powers and duties otherwise provided by this article, the state fire administrator may promulgate rules and regulations with respect to:

(a) The approval, or revocation thereof, of fire training programs **and battery storage fire training programs** for fire fighters;

(b) Minimum courses of study, attendance requirements, and equipment and facilities to be required for approved fire training programs **and battery storage fire training programs** for fire fighters;

(c) Minimum qualifications for instructors for approved fire training programs **and battery storage fire training programs** for fire fighters;

(d) The requirements of minimum basic training which fire fighters appointed to probationary terms shall complete before being eligible for permanent appointment, and the time within which such basic training must be completed following such appointment to a probationary term;

(e) The requirements of minimum basic training which fire fighters not appointed for probationary terms but appointed on other than a permanent basis shall complete in order to be eligible for continued employment or permanent appointment, and the time within which such basic training must be completed following such appointment on a non-permanent basis;

(f) The requirements for in-service training programs designed to assist fire fighters in maintaining skills and being informed of technological advances;

(g) Categories or classifications of advanced in-service training programs and minimum courses of study and attendance requirements with respect to such categories or classifications;

(h) Exemptions from particular provisions of this article in the case of any county, city, town, village or fire district, if in the opinion of the state fire administrator the standards of fire training established and maintained by such county, city, town, village or fire district are equal to or higher than those established pursuant to this article; or revocation in whole or in part of such exemption, if in [~~his or her~~] **such state fire administrator's** opinion the standards of fire training established and maintained by such county, city, town, village or fire district are lower than those established pursuant to this article; and

(i) Education, health and physical fitness requirements for eligibility of persons for provisional or permanent appointment in the competitive class of the civil service as fire fighters as it deems necessary and proper for the efficient performance of such duties;

3. In furtherance of [~~his or her~~] **the state fire administrator's** functions, powers and duties as set forth in this section, [~~the~~] **such** state fire administrator may:

(a) Recommend studies, surveys and reports to be made by the state fire administrator regarding the carrying out of the objectives and purposes of this section;

(b) Visit and inspect any fire training programs approved by the state fire administrator or for which application for such approval has been made; and

(c) Recommend standards for promotion to supervisory positions.

4. In addition to the functions, powers and duties otherwise provided by this section, the state fire administrator shall:

(a) Approve fire training programs **and battery storage fire training programs** for fire fighters and issue certificates of approval to such programs, and revoke such approval or certificate;

(b) Certify, as qualified, instructors for approved fire training programs **and battery storage fire training programs** for fire fighters and issue appropriate certificates to such instructors;

(c) Certify fire fighters who have satisfactorily completed basic training programs and in-service training programs, and issue appropriate certificates to such fire fighters and revoke such certificates;

(d) Cause studies and surveys to be made relating to the establishment, operation, effectiveness and approval of fire training **and battery storage fire training** programs;

(e) Cause studies and surveys to be made relating to the completion or partial completion of training programs by video or computer to the maximum extent practicable; and

(f) Consult with and cooperate with the state university of New York and private universities, colleges and institutes in the state for the development of specialized courses of study for fire fighters in fire science and fire administration.

§ 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law.