STATE OF NEW YORK

6231--A

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 27, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. DURSO, McDONOUGH, DeSTEFANO -- read once and referred to the Committee on Local Governments -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend chapter 187 of the laws of 1960 incorporating the West Islip Exempt Firemen's Benevolent Association, in relation to its purpose and the use of foreign fire insurance premium taxes

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

Section 1. Sections 1, 2, 3 and 7 of chapter 187 of the laws of 1960 incorporating the West Islip Exempt Firemen's Benevolent Association, are amended to read as follows:

Section 1. Incorporation; membership. A [~~membership~~] **not-for-profit** corporation by the name of "West Islip Exempt [~~Firemen's~~] **Firefighter's** Benevolent Association" is hereby created. It shall be composed of such persons eligible to membership therein as hereinafter provided as shall (a) notify the secretary of the West Islip fire department in writing prior to the organization meeting of such corporation hereinafter provided for their desire to become members, or (b) shall attend such meeting or an adjournment thereof, and also such persons so eligible as may become members of such corporation pursuant to its by-laws.

§ 2. Persons eligible to membership. All persons who are now, or have been, or who hereafter shall be volunteer members of the West Islip fire district fire department, or of any fire corporation in such fire district, and all persons resident in such fire district or in territory provided with fire protection by contract with such fire district who are exempt volunteer [~~firemen~~] **firefighters** as defined by section [~~two hundred~~] **200** of the general municipal law, shall be eligible to membership in the corporation hereby created; provided that any person who has been expelled or removed for cause from membership in any fire company or department shall not be eligible to membership in such corporation.

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

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Whenever a member who is not an exempt [~~fireman~~] **firefighter** as defined by section [~~two hundred~~] **200** of the general municipal law shall remove from such fire district or from territory provided with fire protection as aforesaid or if the territory in which a member resides shall no longer be provided with such fire protection, [~~his~~] **such person's** membership in such corporation shall cease.

§ 3. Purposes. The purposes of such corporation shall be [~~the maintenance of suitable headquarters for, and the promotion of fraternal intercourse among the members of such corporation, the relief, aid and assistance of such members and their families who are disabled or indigent, and the promotion of the welfare of the volunteer fire service within the West Islip fire district and territory provided with fire protection by contract with such fire district~~]**: to provide relief, aid and assistance to the volunteer members of such corporation who are disabled, indigent or injured in the performance of their duties, and their families; to promote and safeguard the welfare of the volunteer members of such corporation, and their families; to maintain a suitable headquarters for the members of such corporation; to provide for the health and safety of the volunteer members of such corporation; to include support for mental health and encourage team building skills in order to strengthen the safety among the volunteers; and the promotion of the volunteer fire service within the territory protected by the West Islip fire district fire department**.

§ 7. Precept for payment of foreign fire insurance premium taxes. Such corporation shall collect and there shall be paid to it all taxes imposed by section [~~five hundred fifty-three~~] **9104** of the insurance law, for fire department use and benefit, upon premiums for insurance against loss or damage by fire covering property situated within the territory protected by the West Islip fire department, located in the town of Islip, Suffolk county, New York, or within any duly organized territory in which the West Islip fire department is or may be obligated to render fire protection. The officer of said corporation designated by its by-laws to collect and receive the aforesaid tax shall have all the powers and be subject to all the provisions of the insurance law, relating to treasurers of fire departments. Such corporation shall also be entitled to receive a share of the tax imposed by section [~~five hundred fifty-four~~] **9105** of the insurance law, based upon the business written in the territory with respect to which it is entitled to collect and receive the tax under section [~~five hundred fifty-three~~] **9104** of the insurance law. Such taxes shall only be used [~~for the care and relief of disabled or indigent volunteer and exempt volunteer firemen and their families~~] **by the corporation in furtherance of its purposes as set forth in section three of this act**.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, that the amendments to section 7 of chapter 187 of the laws of 1960 made by section one of this act shall apply to taxes due on premiums received on and after January 1, 2026.