STATE OF NEW YORK

7554

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

April 22, 2025

Introduced by Sen. MARTINS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Local Government

AN ACT to amend the general municipal law, in relation to allowing political subdivisions which contract to receive fire protection services from a special fire company or department to jointly establish a service award program with political subdivisions which contract to receive ambulance services from the same special fire company or department

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

Section 1. Subdivisions 1, 2 and 10 of section 216-a of the general municipal law, as added by chapter 550 of the laws of 1995, paragraph (b) of subdivision 2 as amended by chapter 714 of the laws of 2006, and subdivision 10 as renumbered by chapter 452 of the laws of 2004, are amended to read as follows:

1. The political subdivisions which contract to receive fire protection services**, ambulance services, or both** from a special fire company or department may jointly establish a service award program for the volunteer firefighters of such special fire company or department, provided, however, that no such service award program shall be established unless each and every political subdivision which contracts to receive fire protection services**, ambulance services, or both** from the special fire company or department joins in establishing the program.

2. A service award program for the volunteer firefighters of a special fire company or department shall be jointly established by the political subdivisions which contract to receive fire protection services**, ambulance services, or both** from such fire company or department only if:

(a) the governing board of each and every such political subdivision approves an agreement to jointly sponsor the program by an affirmative vote of at least sixty percent of the governing board; and

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

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(b) the eligible voters of each and every such political subdivision separately approve a proposition authorizing their political subdivision to jointly sponsor the program to be administered by the political subdivision or the state of New York.

10. In the event that the governing board of a political subdivision which is a party to an agreement to jointly sponsor a service award program for the volunteer firefighters of a special fire company or department ceases to contract to receive fire protection services**, ambulance services, or both** from the special fire company or department, the political subdivision shall cease to be a sponsor of the service award program and shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the agreement in accordance with the terms of the agreement without further action by the governing board or voters of any political subdivision.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.