STATE OF NEW YORK

10650

IN SENATE

June 3, 2026

Introduced by Sen. KAVANAGH -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to amend the military law, in relation to extending the expansion of eligibility for World Trade Center death and disability benefits for members of New York's organized militia

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

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 1 and paragraph (b) of subdivision 2 of section 217 of the military law, as added by section 1 of part J of chapter 55 of the laws of 2023, are amended to read as follows:

(b) was activated on state active duty on or after September eleventh, two thousand one, to participate in World Trade Center site rescue, recovery, or cleanup operations as part of such state active duty, and who is determined to have incurred a qualifying World Trade Center condition, as hereinafter provided, shall be entitled to a performance of duty disability pension equivalent to three-quarters of the member's final annual pay as provided for under this chapter. The deadline for submitting any qualifying claim under this paragraph shall be on or before September eleventh, two thousand [~~twenty-six~~] **thirty**. The adjutant general of the division of military and naval affairs is authorized to promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of this section.

(b) was activated on state active duty on or after September eleventh, two thousand one, to participate in World Trade Center site rescue, recovery, or cleanup operations as part of such state active duty, and whose death is determined to be the result of incurring a qualifying World Trade Center condition, as hereinafter provided, the surviving spouse, children under twenty-one years of age or dependent parent of such member of the organized militia shall be entitled to an accidental death benefit equivalent to one-half of the member's final annual pay as provided under this chapter. The deadline for submitting any qualifying claim under this paragraph shall be on or before September eleventh, two thousand [~~twenty-six~~] **thirty**. The adjutant general of the division of military and naval affairs is authorized to promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of this section.

§ 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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