STATE OF NEW YORK

5418

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 21, 2025

Introduced by Sen. LANZA -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations

AN ACT to amend the public officers law, in relation to authorizing the waiver of citizenship requirements for certain police and firefighters

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

Section 1. Section 3 of the public officers law is amended by adding a new subdivision 1-b to read as follows:

1-b. Citizenship requirements of police and/or firefighters. Notwithstanding any general, special or local law or administrative code to the contrary, the local governing bodies of the several cities, counties, towns, villages, police and fire districts of the state are hereby authorized to waive any citizenship requirements from the qualifications of police officers and/or firefighters upon the submission by the police officer or firefighter candidate of proof of having received an honorable or general discharge from the United States army, navy, air force, marines, coast guard, and/or reserves thereof, and/or the army national guard, air national guard, New York guard and/or New York naval militia.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

LBD09506-01-5