STATE OF NEW YORK

6926--A

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 27, 2025

Introduced by Sen. ROLISON -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Local Government -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend chapter 636 of the laws of 1995 relating to incorporating the Volunteer and Exempt Firemen's Benevolent Association of Coldenham Inc., and providing for its powers and duties, in relation to the purposes and duties of such corporation 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 636 of the laws of 1995 relating to incorporating the Volunteer and Exempt Firemen's Benevolent Association of Coldenham Inc., and providing for its powers and duties, are amended to read as follows:

Section 1. Incorporation; membership. A not-for-profit corporation by the name of the Volunteer and Exempt [~~Firemen's~~] **Firefighter's** Benevolent Association of Coldenham, Inc., 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 Volunteer [~~Firemen's~~] **Firefighter's** Benevolent Association of Coldenham, Inc., in writing prior to the organization meeting of such corporation hereinafter provided for of 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 hereafter shall be active volunteer members of the fire company or corporation of Coldenham and who have heretofore acquired or shall hereafter acquire the status of exempt volunteer [~~firemen~~] **firefighter** as defined in section 200 of the general municipal law or any other applicable law by virtue of having rendered service in said fire corporation or fire company in such district, and all persons who are now or hereafter shall be active volunteer members of said fire company or corporation shall be eligible for membership in the corporation hereby

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

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created; provided that any person who has been expelled or removed for cause from membership in any fire department or company shall not be eligible to membership in such corporation. The membership of any person in such corporation shall terminate when [~~his~~] their membership as an active volunteer member of the fire company or corporation of Coldenham shall terminate before such persons shall have acquired the status of exempt volunteer [~~firemen~~] firefighter as defined in section 200 of the general municipal law by virtue of having rendered services to such fire company or corporation.

§ 3. Purposes. The purposes of [~~such corporation shall be the maintenance of suitable headquarters for, and the promotion of friendly association for the betterment of the members of such corporation and their relations with the community, for the promotion of fraternal intercourse among the members of such corporation, to study and disseminate among the members of such corporation the most efficient manner of fighting fire, the relief, aid and assistance of such members and their families who are disabled or indigent and to acquire real and personal property such as may be necessary for the purposes herein set forth and the promotion of the welfare of the volunteer fire service within the territory now served or which may hereafter be served by the fire company or corporation of Coldenham~~] the corporation created by this act shall be: (a) to provide relief, aid and assistance to the volunteer members of such corporation who are disabled, indigent or injured in the performance of such members' duties, and such members' families; (b) to promote and safeguard the welfare of the volunteer members of such corporation, and such members' families; (c) to provide for the health and safety of the volunteer members of the corporation; (d) to maintain a suitable headquarters for the members of such corporation; (e) to enhance the morale of the volunteer members of such corporation by providing social and recreational activities for the volunteer members of such corporation; and (f) the promotion of the volunteer fire service within the territory protected by such Coldenham 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 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 Coldenham fire district within the towns of Newburgh and Montgomery located in Orange county, New York. The officers 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 distributed pursuant to the provisions of section 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 9104 of the insurance law. Such taxes shall only be used [~~for the care and relief of indigent volunteer and exempt firefighters 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 636 of the laws of 1995 relating to incorporating the Volunteer and Exempt Firemen's Benevolent Association of Coldenham Inc., and providing for its powers and duties made by section one of this act shall apply to taxes due on premiums received on and after January 1, 2026.