National NYCPD 10-13 Organizations, Inc.



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AN ORGANIZATION OF ACTIVE AND RETIRED NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICERS OF ALL RANKS

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HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE NYS SENATE AND THE NYS ASSEMBLY

REQUESTING YOUR UNANIMOUS SUPPORT FOR OUR LEGISLATIVE AGENDA (ATTACHED)

April 17, 2018

Dear Legislator,

The National NYCPD 10-13 Organizations, Inc. is here today to attend the Alliance of Public Retirees of NY's Lobby Day as a member-group. I am the National 10-13's 2nd Vice President, the Legislative Representative, and President Emeritus as well. I am also the Vice President of the Alliance, and have served both organizations for 25 years.

When a person retires, the course of political action to protect and enhance their previously earned benefits is through their elected representatives. NYS retirees are one of the biggest voting blocs in the state. According to a recent (2015) report by the Office of the NYS Comptroller, Thomas P. DiNapoli, retirees in 2015 "paid \$1.7 billion in real property taxes (excluding NYC)". The needs of retirees and their beneficiaries for the services of local businesses created about "66,100 jobs". NY retirees and their beneficiaries generated about "\$550 million in state and local taxes". The point is that retirees stay in the state and support its structures and institutions.

There are some retirees and their families who have suffered detrimental changes in their Health Benefits which has put other retirees in a position of fear and stress that this diminishing of their earned benefits could be done to them. As you know, retirees have no voice in the active unions, and can't afford the high cost of litigation, but look to our elected officials to protect our benefits which were negotiated for and earned through our years as Civil Servants. Some of these

Member - Alliance of Public Retiree Organizations of New York
Recognized by the Congress of the United States, the Legislature of the State of New York,
and the New York City Council as the established union representing all retired NYC Police Officers

benefits were gained in lieu of pay raises and other working conditions trade-offs. Many of our retirees live on fixed incomes, and as you know the costs of property taxes, food, gas and heating fuel have climbed substantially. All these increasing costs to retirees at this time in their lives are depressing and worrisome, even though they were guaranteed. And now, decisions are being made to change these laws, which is unfair to the retiree who bargained for these benefits in good faith.

There have been no improvements or even discussions on the 6 COLA Enhancement Bills, since they were passed in 2000. We are waiting for the introduction of the Veterans' Supplementation Bill, which would give the retired veteran a supplementation. Thank you for passing the Veteran's Buy Back Bill. The COLA Enhancement and Veterans' Supplementation Bills are drawn from pension funds, and are not a cost factor to the tax payer. Thousands of veterans are dying daily waiting for their representatives to give them a benefit commemorating their service. Yet, both the NYS and NYC Comptrollers' offices brag that the pension funds are at historical highs. Again, both COLA and Veterans' Supplementation come directly from pensions.

Our members are well aware and are constantly updated as to who their representatives in their districts are. Retirees are active-voters. With more than 300,000 pensioners in NYS contributing more than \$6.5 billion to their communities and state coffers, it's no wonder they are upset. The average pension for a public retiree is \$19,100/year. There are about 231,000 pensioners over 65 years of age, and their pensions are about \$16,100/year. About 24,000 pensions are below \$10,000/year. Statewide, retirees pay out \$1.7 billion in real property taxes. These statistics were taken from the Comptroller's 2015 CAFR.

I think the legislators are incognizant of the fact that their constituents have lost confidence and respect for their representatives who have forgotten their needs and how that representative acquired his or her office in the first place. Instead of getting real feedback on our issues, we get invitations to their fund-raisers for their re-elections. Our members are on-line, have web-sites and get newsletters and e mail, and we will be up-dating the report card on a regular basis as to how well our legislators are doing in representing us.

I would like to thank you for your past support and hope you become active and pay attention to the attached bills that would help retirees and their families. I am always available to sit down and discuss our agenda with you. This letter was prepared to be distributed by our members to their elected officials for Lobby Day

Sincerely,

Centhony V. Perrone Anthony V. Perrone, National 10-13 2nd VP, President Emeritus, & Alliance VP Cc: National Board of Directors, Alliance

2017-2018 Legislative Agenda April 17, 2018

New York State Legislation	Senate #	Sponsor	Assembly	# Sponsor
1- Health Ins. Protection (Retirees)	Pending	Lanza	A5455	Weprin
2- COLA Enhancement Bills	Pending	Golden	*APending	Abbate
a) Reduces Eligibility age from	S6049	66	A10351	
62 to 55 with 5 years service				
**b) Five year additional (look-	S6047	u	A10352	
back) for older retirees				
c) Increases the COLA from	S60451	"	*A Pendin	g
50% to 100% of CPI (not to exceed 3%)				
d) Raises the maximum CPI	S6050	"	*A Pending	
from 3% to 5%				
e) Raises the Surviving Spouse COLA from 50% to 100%	S6048	Golden	A10350	Abbate
f) Increases the CAP from \$18,000 to \$25,000	S3306	Richie	A6045	Steck
**3- Veteran's Supplementation	S6505	Larkin	A10324	DenDekker-
(Retirees) 1/4% per month, up to 36 months (total 3%)				
4-Establish A Temporary Task Force				
on the Variable Supplement Fu VSF	ina 81424	Avella	A00480	Gunther
5-Officer Randolph Holder Law	S00027	Golden	A03404-18	Malliotakis