



JOE SEMPOLINSKI
Assemblyman 148th District
Allegany, Cattaraugus, and
Steuben Counties

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
Committee on Mental Health

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Education
Environmental Conservation
Higher Education
Labor
People with Disabilities

August 28, 2026

Hon. Kathy Hochul, Governor
New York State
Executive Chamber
NYS Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul,

I respectfully request that you sign S.7635/A.9162A into law once it is delivered to your office.

This legislation, which I supported, passed both houses of the Legislature with bipartisan support. It would authorize New York State, counties, and municipalities to offer an optional 25-year retirement plan to 911 dispatchers and emergency communications personnel. This bill does not mandate adoption by any locality. It simply provides the option.

This local flexibility is especially valuable for rural counties like Allegany, Cattaraugus and Steuben counties in my district, which face ongoing challenges to recruit and retain qualified emergency dispatchers. The work performed by these professionals is essential to public safety and carries a significant mental, emotional, and physical toll. Emergency dispatchers are literally the first link in the survival chain for our constituents facing a medical emergency or a personal-safety threat to themselves or their loved ones.

Providing a realistic path to retirement after 25 years of service would reduce turnover, preserve institutional knowledge, and strengthen the emergency communications system that law enforcement, fire, EMS, and the public depend on.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you would like to further discuss my support for S.7635/A.9162A, please don't hesitate to contact me at: sempolinskij@nyassembly.gov or 716-373-7103.

Sincerely,



Joe Sempolinski
Member of Assembly

Cc: Casey D. Howe