

LIVINGSTON COUNTY SHERIFF



THOMAS J. DOUGHERTY, SHERIFF

MATTHEW D. BEAN, UNDERSHERIFF

August 31, 2026

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Re: Support for A.9162A / S.7635B

Dear Governor Hochul:

As Director of the Livingston County Sheriff's Office Communications Bureau, I write to express my strong support for A.9162A / S.7635B, legislation that would create an optional 25-year retirement plan for eligible New York 911 dispatchers and emergency communications professionals.

911 professionals are the first point of contact during emergencies. They gather critical information, provide lifesaving instructions, coordinate law-enforcement, fire, and EMS responses, and maintain communications throughout rapidly changing incidents. They perform this work while carrying the cumulative effects of traumatic calls, rotating shifts, mandatory overtime, disrupted sleep, and persistent staffing pressures.

A realistic career path would help emergency communications centers recruit and retain experienced professionals, preserve institutional knowledge, and strengthen continuity of service. The proposal preserves local choice: a public employer would have to elect to offer the plan, so supporting this enabling legislation is not a request for immediate local adoption or an automatic financial commitment.

The New York State Senate and Assembly have passed this measure. I respectfully urge you to support and sign A.9162A/S.7635B when it is presented for executive action.

By signing and returning this letter, I also authorize the NY 911 Retirement campaign to publicly identify me, in my official capacity, and the Livingston County Sheriff's Office Communications Bureau as supporters of this legislation and to share this signed letter on its website, social media, and campaign materials.

Thank you for your consideration and for recognizing the service of New York's 911 professionals.

Respectfully,

Phyllis Applin

Director, Communications Bureau
Livingston County

cc: NY 911 Retirement, contact@ny911retirement.org