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Wellsville Police Department Union
Wellsville, New York

September 23, 2026

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of the State of New York
Albany, New York

Re: Support for A.9162A / S.7635B – 25-Year Retirement Option for Public Safety Dispatchers

Dear Governor Hochul:

On behalf of the Wellsville Police Department Union, we respectfully ask you to sign legislation A.9162A / S.7635B, establishing an optional 25-year retirement plan for public safety dispatchers, 911 operators, and other qualifying emergency communications personnel.

Dispatchers are a critical part of our emergency services system. They are often the first point of contact during a crisis and play an essential role in receiving emergency calls, assessing information, and coordinating the response of police, fire, and emergency medical services. Their decisions and actions directly support the safety of the public and the first responders who answer those calls.

The responsibilities of emergency communications personnel require significant training, constant attention, sound judgment, and the ability to perform under stressful and demanding circumstances. We believe those who dedicate their careers to this vital public safety function should have access to retirement benefits that recognize the important role they play alongside other first responders.

We respectfully urge you to sign this legislation into law and recognize the essential contribution of New York's emergency communications professionals.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued attention to the needs of New York's public safety workforce.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "S. Farrand".

S. Farrand

Union President
Wellsville Police Department Union
New York Council 66 and
Local 2574 C- AFSCME, AFL CIO