

The Uniformed EMTs, Paramedics and Inspectors – F.D.N.Y.

Local 2507, District Council 37, AFSCME, AFL-CIO
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PRESIDENT
Oren Barzilay

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

S6988B (Gounardes)/A7962A (Abbate)

VICE PRESIDENT
Michael Greco

AN ACT to amend the administrative code of the city of New York and the retirement and social security law, in relation to the establishment of twenty-five-year retirement programs for members of the New York City employees' retirement system employed as Fire Protection Inspectors and their supervisors

SECRETARY-TREASURER
Lance Winfield

RECORDING SECRETARY
Carl Gandolfo

This bill would establish a 25-year retirement for Fire Protection Inspectors (FPI) and their supervisors who are members of the New York City employees' retirement system. The plan would be optional for those who are Fire Protection Inspectors or supervisors, and members of the system on the effective date. The costs of the plan are paid for by required additional employee contributions of 6.25% of salary.

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MANAGER
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FPI perform arduous and dangerous jobs in New York City, and the performance of their tasks is literally a matter of life and death. This bill would afford them the opportunity to retire with a full pension after 25 years of service, a standard similar to that governing other uniformed service personnel.

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Brendan O'Sullivan

Currently, FPI members are entitled to retire only at 62 years of age and if they have at least 5 years of credited service. They are treated worse for pension purposes than nearly every other member of a uniformed service who has a role in protecting the citizens of New York City. This bill simply rectifies that inequity, and places them in the same position as, for example, FDNY EMTs and Paramedics. If adopted, FPI will, like other members of the uniformed services, be able to retire without regard to age.

DELEGATES TO DC-37

Those who would participate in the program will have to make additional member contributions of 6.25% of their salary. This is a higher level of contribution than they are currently required to pay. These contributions are on top of basic contributions that all NYCERS members pay. As set out in the fiscal note, the cost to the City if this bill is passed is truly negligible.

Darren Connors
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Retirement after 25 years of service is a standard that other uniformed forces in New York City currently enjoy. No longer period of service is required for police, fire, corrections, or sanitation members. No greater service should be required of FPI members.

Accordingly, we strongly urge that this bill be approved.