

EMAIL LEGISLATIVE LEADERS

The **NYS Senate and Assembly** have both announced plans to return next week to address a package of bills related to the **COVID-19 pandemic**.

We need your help to push crucial action on key FASNY bills when they come back to Albany.

Once again, volunteer firefighters and EMS providers have proven the necessity of the essential services they provide. The bills listed below are a priority as they benefit New York's 90,000 volunteer firefighters protecting their communities against the impact of COVID-19.

Specifically, FASNY urges the Senate and Assembly to consider the following legislation in their package of COVID-related bills:

- Address the affordability crisis fire departments are facing and **pass EMS billing**. Recovering the costs of EMS calls is a logical solution that does not negatively impact the state's budget in this time of fiscal stress;
- Ensure volunteer firefighters receive credit toward their **length of service award programs** during the pandemic;
- Extend existing benefits under the Volunteer Firefighter's and Volunteer Ambulance Worker's Benefit Laws to **cover exposure to COVID-19** during a declared state of emergency. This would ensure immediate testing, treatment and coverage for any resulting condition arising from the virus;
- Convene a **Recruitment and Retention Task Force** to determine necessary solutions to fortify our ranks. During this pandemic, our members have once again played crucial roles on the front lines. This legislation would ensure the state plays its proper role in recruiting the next generation of volunteers.

Please click the link below to send a message to Senate and Assembly leadership urging support for this legislation. The time for action on these bills is NOW!

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FASNY's Board of Directors appreciates you taking a moment to fight for our priority legislation. The Board also would like to wish all of our FASNY Family an enjoyable Memorial Day Weekend. Please take a moment to remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for the United States of America and for all of us.