GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS MEETING – 09/14/2024

ATTENDEES –

GREGORY ANDERSON – CHAIRMAN

SCOTT EWING

ANTHONY TRIPP

LEE SHURTLEFF – BY TELEPHONE

GEORGE JUNE

TODD VANERVORT – EMAIL

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THE LEGISLATIVE ISSUES NYSAFC WILL SUPPORT AND BRING TO THE “ISSUES OF UNITED CONCERN” MEETING IN DECEMBER.

TODD VANDERVORT PROVIDED AN UPDATE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE ISSUES AND INFORMATION ON THE 2025 LOOK AHEAD.

THE FOLLOWING STATE LEGISLATION WAS IDENTIFIED AS ISSUES WE NEED TO PROMOTE AND SUPPORT.

1. EMS AS AN ESSENTIAL SERVICE
2. MAKING COST RECOVERY PERMANENT – EXPIRES 4/1/2026
3. VFBL PARITY WITH WORKERS COMPENSATION
4. MARK PERMANENT HEART AND LUNG COVERAGE – EXPIRES 7/1/2025 AND 6/20/2025, RESPECTIVELY.
5. PROVIDE UP TO 1 YEAR OF CREDIT TO STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR EVERY 5 YEARS OF VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE. MAXIMUM OF 3 YEARS CREDIT.
6. PROVIDE PROPERTY OR INCOME TAX CREDITS FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE.
7. ADOPTION OF 2024 ICC CODES WHICH INCLUDES RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLERS. URGE OUR LEGISLATORS NOT TO LEGISLATE THE CODE, BUT LET THE CODE COUNCIL PROCESS WORK.
8. ADVOCATE THAT THE 54-G FUNDING BE ALLOCATED TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO ENFORCE THE BUILDING CODES AND PROVIDE FIRE PREVENTION.
9. WORK WITH THE GOVERNOR’S STAFF TO HAVE THE LEGISLATION APPROVED BY BOTH HOUSES SIGNED BY OCTOBER 1, 2024. S8486 – SENATOR M. HINCHEY, A-9102 – ASSEMBLYPERSON DR. A. KELLES. THIS BILL IS FOR MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT FOR TREATMENT IN PLACE AND TRANSPORTION TO ALTERNATE HEALTH CARE FACILITY.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE FEDERAL LEGISLATION ISSUES THE NYSAFC SHOULD PROMOTE AND SUPPORT.

1. OSHA 1910 – MAINTAIN FIGHT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE REQUIREMENTS IN THEIR CURRENT CONDITION. SUPPORT HAS BEEN SENT TO OSHA FROM OUR VARIOUS LEGISLATORS TO EITHER EXEMPT THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE, MAKE REQUIREMENTS SCALABLE AND THAT ANY REQUIREMENTS ARE FEASIBLE AND FINANCIALLY ECONOMICAL.
2. NFPA SENT LETTER TO OSHA SAYING DO NOT REFERENCE THEIR STANDARDS IN THEIR UPDATE.
3. CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE FUNDING OF THE AFG AND SAFER GRANT PROGRAMS.
4. THE CFSI SYMPOSIUM IS EARLY NEXT YEAR ON FEBRUARY 12 & 13, 2025.