

RESOLUTION NO. 75

AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 305-A FOR 2010 REGARDING THE FIRST RESPONDER APPRECIATION PROGRAM IN ALBANY COUNTY IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH THE COMMISSION AND CLARIFY APPOINTMENT OF ITS MEMBERSHIP

Introduced: 2/11/19

By Messrs. Commisso, A. Joyce, Feeney, Miller, Cahill, and Ms. Chapman, Messrs. Beston, Bullock, Burgdorf, Clay, Crouse, Ms. Cunningham, Messrs. Dawson, Domalewicz, Drake, Ethier, Fein, Frainier, Grimm, Hogan, R. Joyce, Mss. Lekakis, Lockart, Messrs. Mauriello, Mayo, Mss. McKnight, McLean Lane, Mr. Mendick, Ms. Plotsky, Messrs. Reinhardt, Smith, Stevens, Touchette, Tunny, Ward and Ms. Willingham:

WHEREAS, Through the adoption of Resolution 305-A for 2010, this Honorable Body recognized the invaluable services that emergency personnel and first responders including, but not limited to, police officers, fire-fighters, and emergency medical technicians (EMTS) provide to the citizenry of Albany County on a day-to-day basis, and

WHEREAS, In order to properly reflect the debt of gratitude that Albany County owes to these first responders, the Albany County Legislature established a twelve (12) member commission via the aforementioned resolution in order to develop a first responder appreciation program, and

WHEREAS, The commission envisioned by Resolution 305-A for 2010 was proposed to be made up of local attorneys, grant writers, municipal leaders, local police and fire chiefs and union representatives who understand the needs of first responders, and

WHEREAS, The commission was tasked with the goal of creating a first responder appreciation program whereby Albany County first responders may possibly receive discounts on goods and services at participating establishments and/or establishing a first responder eligibility or preference for educational or home buying grants, and

WHEREAS, To date, this Honorable Body has yet to appoint the membership of the commission, thereby preventing the establishment of an Albany County first responder appreciation program, and

WHEREAS, It has become apparent that the terms of Resolution 305-A for 2010 need to be clarified in order to allow this Honorable Body to effectively appoint the membership of the commission, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the Albany County Legislature that Resolution 305-A is amended to indicate that the twelve (12) member commission shall be composed of members reflecting the groups initially contemplated, and each member shall be appointed by a majority vote of the Albany County Legislature, and, be it further

RESOLVED, The appointments to the commission shall be made at the recommendation of the Majority and Minority Leaders at a ratio which reflects the proportionate make-up of the Albany County Legislature, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the commission shall serve until a first responder appreciation program is effectively developed and established, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the commission shall be established, the extent practicable, within 6 months of the adoption of this resolution, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the County Legislature is directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the appropriate County Officials.

Referred to Law Committee - 2/11/19

Favorable Recommendation Law Committee - 3/11/19

Adopted by unanimous vote – 3/11/19