



TOWN OF GRAFTON

Established in 1807

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RESOLUTION URGING AND SUPPORTING THE PASSAGE OF NEW YORK STATE SENATE BILL S.2048 Resolution #39 of 2023

WHEREAS, The Town of Grafton acknowledges the difficulty in recruiting and retaining volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers; and

WHEREAS, Our community rely on these volunteers that provide these vital services within our town; and

WHEREAS, Emergency calls have increased and the number of volunteers in the region continues to decrease; and

WHEREAS, On Dec. 9, 2022, Governor Hochul signed legislation that creates an opt-in for all local governments to provide a 10% property tax exemption to volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers; and

WHEREAS, The law took effect immediately and Rensselaer County passed Local Law 1 of 2023 opting in to the legislation to allow our volunteers the option of receiving this exemption of the \$200 tax credit; and

WHEREAS, The Rensselaer County Legislative Body has heard from local volunteers and feel that while this new legislation was well intended; NYS Bill S.2048 would be more successful with the overall recruitment and retention problems our volunteer agencies and communities are facing; and

WHEREAS, This Town Board supports any efforts that may help with the recruitment and retention for these vital volunteer services and urge the passing of NYS Bill S2048;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT, RESOLVED, that the Clerk for the Town of Grafton is hereby directed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senator Jake Ashby, Assemblyman Scott Bendett.

Motion made by Frank Lewandusky, seconded by Steve Beaudry

Roll Call:

Councilman Beaudry - Yea
Councilwoman Deschaine - Yea
Councilman Lewandusky - Yea
Councilman Hoyt - Yea
Supervisor Gundrum - Yea

Motion Carried 5-0

Adopted March 13, 2023