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(LE)

OFFICE OF THE  
DEMOCRATIC MINORITY



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**NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE**  
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## Inter-Departmental Memo

To: Michael C Pulitzer, Clerk of the Legislature

From: Peter J. Clines, Esq., Minority Counsel *PJC*

CC: Hon. Richard Nicoletto, Presiding Officer

Hon. Kevan Abrahams, Minority Leader

Date: November 15, 2018

Re: A RESOLUTION directing Nassau County to restore lost funding to the SAFER tuition assistance program for volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers

Attached please find the above referenced proposed resolution which has been approved as to form per the Rules of the Legislature. Kindly distribute a copy to Presiding Officer Richard Nicoletto along with our request that this item be placed on the next available legislative agenda.

Kindly provide a time stamped hard copy acknowledgement of your receipt.

Thank you.

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2018 NOV 15 P 1:56

Introduced by: Legislators Siela Bynoe and Delia DeRiggi-Whitton  
Co-Sponsored by:

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_-2018

A RESOLUTION directing Nassau County to restore lost funding to the SAFER tuition assistance program for volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers.

APPROVED AS TO FORM



PETER J. CLINES MINORITY COUNSEL

2018 NOV 15 P 1:59

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CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE

WHEREAS, volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers contribute enormously to the public safety, health, and general well-being of the residents of their communities at great personal sacrifice and cost to themselves; and

WHEREAS, volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers donate their personal time to make their communities a safer place to live; and

WHEREAS, it is important to provide benefits to help recruit men and women who voluntarily put themselves in danger to protect the lives and property of Nassau County residents; and

WHEREAS, in the past the County has received federal funding to support the SAFER scholarship program which provides tuition assistance to volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers; and

WHEREAS, under the SAFER tuition assistance program, any Nassau County college student who enrolls with a participating volunteer fire company or EMS squad is potentially eligible to receive thousands of dollars in tuition reimbursement; and

WHEREAS, the SAFER tuition assistance is an essential tool for encouraging recruitment of new first responders in Nassau County by incentivizing college students to become volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers; and

WHEREAS it has come to the attention of the Legislature that the County has recently been denied federal grant funding for the SAFER tuition assistance program which would have funded an additional semester of tuition assistance in 2018 and tuition assistance for the entire 2019 academic year; and

WHEREAS, it is crucial that the County intervene to make up the deficit in the SAFER tuition assistance program resulting from the aforementioned denial of additional federal funding; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to Nassau County Charter Section 2113, the Nassau County shall provide funding for the SAFER tuition assistance program for the 2018 and 2019 academic year, to the extent funding from outside sources is not available;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that nothing in this resolution shall be construed to prevent the County from seeking reimbursement for monies expended pursuant hereto from public or private sources, other than from the students receiving the aforementioned tuition assistance.