



Legislation Text

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Res. No. 297

Resolution calling upon the New York State Legislature to pass legislation mandating that deaths resulting from injuries or illnesses derived from serving in rescue operations in or around Ground Zero and related sites be afforded “in the line of duty” status, thereby allowing dependants of individuals who died as a result of such injuries or illnesses to receive more comprehensive benefits.

By Council Members Gerson, Brewer, Fidler, James, Mark-Viverito, Mendez, Nelson, Palma, Weprin, and White Jr.

Whereas, The tragic events of September 11, 2001, claimed nearly 3,000 victims; and

Whereas, Such death toll might climb as first responders succumb to injuries and illnesses that were received while performing their heroic duties; and

Whereas, The tragic death of New York City Detective James Zadroga is the first official fatality to be directly linked to the contamination of the World Trade Center site; and

Whereas, Detective Zadroga’s heroic actions on and after September 11, 2001, ultimately caused his death; and

Whereas, Detective Zadroga’s death may well be a harbinger of future fatalities, as there are many police officers, firefighters, and other emergency responders whose health continues to decline as a result of exposure to contaminants at Ground Zero and related sites; and

Whereas, Under current New York State Law, Detective Zadroga’s four-year-old daughter and future beneficiaries in her position will only receive a “disability pension,” instead of the full “line of duty” death benefits for which they should be entitled; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls upon the New York State Legislature to pass legislation mandating that deaths resulting from injuries or illnesses derived from serving in rescue operations

in or around Ground Zero and related sites be afforded “in the line of duty” status, thereby allowing dependants of individuals who died as a result of such injuries or illnesses to receive more comprehensive benefits.

HG
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