



## New York State Professional Fire Fighters Association, Inc.

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REV. JOHN TALLMAN  
40 Collins Place  
Albany, NY 12208

April 15, 2024

RE: AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to availability of ambulance services and advanced life support first response service to store and distribute blood and initiate and administer blood transfusions

S.6226-A (Hinchey)

A.5789-A (Woerner)

### MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

**The New York State Professional Fire Fighters Association (NYSPPFA), I.A.F.F. AFL-CIO**, a not-for-profit association representing 18,000 firefighters in 110 Locals in various cities, villages, and towns across New York State, strongly supports enactment of this legislation, which will allow for the storage and transfusion of blood for all Emergency Medical Service (EMS) agencies, including ground transport. In 2021, New York State enacted legislation permitting air ambulance services to store blood at all their facilities and distribute it while providing air transport services.

Expanding the ability for ambulance and EMS services to store and distribute blood and initiate and administer blood transfusions is potentially lifesaving for our EMS agencies in rural areas with longer transport times to trauma centers. NYSPPFA has locals in smaller cities and some rural communities in New York State that will have longer transport times to hospitals. This necessary legislative change will allow our EMS workers to provide the necessary care in transfusion situations when every second matters.

Therefore, NYSPPFA strongly supports the enactment of this legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel A. Fresina, President  
New York State Professional Fire Fighters Association