

August 2026

Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor
Executive Chamber, State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224



RE: Disability Coverage for County Probation Officers (Local Option)

Dear Governor Hochul,

As a member of the New York State Public Employees Federation (PEF), I urge you to approve legislation recently passed by both houses of the State Legislature that would allow counties, at their option, to provide a more equitable benefit for probation officers injured in the line of duty (S.8837 by Sen. Hinchey/A.2535 by Asm. Paulin).

This legislation amends the General Municipal Law to allow counties to provide full salary replacement for probation officers hurt in the performance of their duties. Currently, Nassau County is the only county that has adopted provisions to provide this benefit to probation officers who are hurt while doing their job.

This legislation is merely an option, allowing each county to determine if it would like to offer this benefit to its probation officers. Also, there is no cost to the state, as any additional charges will be borne by the county.

Probation officers, like many other peace officers, can easily be injured on the job. As more formerly incarcerated individuals are placed on probation, the likelihood of injury only increases as the caseloads of probation officers increase. This benefit already exists for many similar job titles and should be extended to probation officers who work to keep our communities safe.

It is for these reasons that I urge you to sign this legislation into law.

Sincerely,

Name: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____