



SWEET HOME

"EVERY STUDENT, ONE COMMUNITY, READY FOR THE FUTURE."

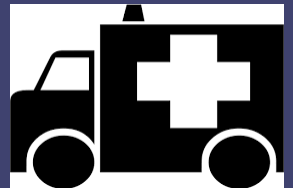
VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER / EMT PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

Real Property Tax Law § 466-a

Tuesday, May 2, 2023

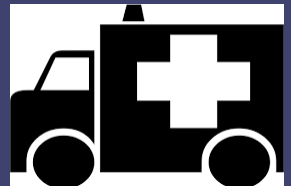
Legislation Highlights

- Provides up to a 10% property tax exemption of assessed value for volunteer firefighters and/or ambulance workers.
- Tax exemptions is available to all taxing jurisdictions, including school districts
- Signed into law as a recruitment and retention tool for the first-responder community.



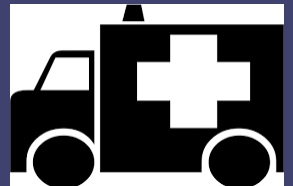
Eligibility Requirements

- Property must be:
 - *Primary residence and owned by the volunteer firefighter or ambulance worker*
 - *Located within the jurisdiction served by the fire company, fire department or ambulance entity*
- Volunteers must have at least two years of volunteer service to qualify
- Fire district/ ambulance company must certify eligible volunteers of that organization and that service requirements are met
- Individual must fill out exemption application with Town



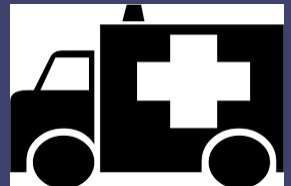
Additional Benefits of Legislation

- Property tax exemption permanency after 20 years of service so long as the residence remains the volunteer's primary residence
- Property tax exemption is extended for the lifetime of a surviving, unremarried spouse of a deceased volunteer if the deceased volunteer served at least 20 years
- Line-of-Duty Death (LODD) event allows for the continued tax exemption for an unremarried spouse.



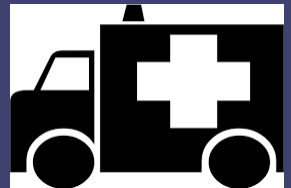
Fiscal Impact

- Sweet Home Central School District:
 - *Many other area school districts considering (Williamsville CSD adopted in March)*
 - *No direct fiscal impact to the District*
 - *Does not negatively impact the District's ability to levy or collect property taxes to fund operational needs and requirements*
- Property Taxpayers:
 - *The exemption decreases overall, taxable assessed value within the SHCSD jurisdiction*
 - *The District's tax levy would be distributed among the remaining taxable assessed value resulting in a slightly increased tax rate*
 - *Real impact to taxpayers would be negligible.*



Board of Education Action

- Resolution opting into the Property Tax Exemption specifying:
 - *Tax Exemption Percentage (10%)*
 - *Years of Volunteer Service Requirement to be eligible for the Exemption*
 - *Certifying the individual for the exemption (BOE resolution & Local Assessor)*
- Public Hearing on the Exemption – May 2



Questions??

