



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Pamela Helming

Senator Helming Recognizes Fire Prevention Week, Thanks Local Firefighters

JONATHAN MONFILETTO - 315-568-9816 October 8, 2017



Senator Pam Helming is recognizing National Fire Prevention Week from Oct. 8 to Oct. 14. Working with local firefighters, Senator Helming helped lead the effort to pass several pieces of critical legislation related to firefighters during this year's legislative session. As part of Fire Prevention Week, Senator Helming is also urging local residents to thank our local firefighters and take steps to protect their families.

“Firefighters represent the best of our local communities and make great sacrifices to respond in times of crisis. They are truly heroes. We must do everything possible to thank them for their service and ensure that they have the support they need. As State Senator, I was proud to work with many local firefighters this year to pass legislation that will help our first responders and communities,” Senator Helming said.

Senator Helming sponsored legislation that was recently signed into law to allow volunteer and paid firefighters who are members of fire departments of other states to assist volunteer fire departments in New York State. Additionally, Senator Helming co-sponsored a bill to establish the crime of obstructing firefighting operations. With Senator Helming’s support, the Senate and Assembly passed legislation that provides volunteer firefighters who contract certain forms of cancer with enhanced disability benefits. This bill passed both the Senate and Assembly and is awaiting approval from Governor Cuomo.

As part of this year’s New York State budget negotiations, Senator Helming fought for and secured \$500,000 in funding for grants for the more than 70 local volunteer fire departments. This money will be used to help these departments purchase life-saving equipment and many other important tools that firefighters use to protect our communities.

Senator Helming is urging local residents to check their smoke detectors this week and ensure they are functioning properly. In partnership with local fire departments and community groups, the Red Cross is offering free smoke alarms to residents in need and providing fire preparedness education to local families. To learn more about these programs, please call (585)

241-4457.

Senator Helming represents the 54th Senate District, which consists of Seneca and Wayne Counties, parts of Cayuga and Ontario Counties, and the towns of Lansing and Webster. For more information, please visit Senator Helming's [website](#), or follow @SenatorHelming on Facebook or Twitter.

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