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Senator Helming and Republican Conference Announce Law Enforcement Protection Bills

Senator Pam Helming joined Senate Republican Leader Rob Ortt and her Senate Republican colleagues to introduce a package of bills to protect and honor the hardworking men and women of law enforcement.

Senator Pam Helming said, "Our law enforcement officers put their lives on the line for us every time they leave their homes for work. We are recognizing that sacrifice during National Police Week. We must never forget the challenges these officers face and the heroism they demonstrate. The men and women of law enforcement are hardworking and dedicated public servants. As State Senator, I am grateful for their service and I will continue to be a strong advocate for our officers and their families."

The "Protect Those Who Protect Us" legislative package includes:

- S.2561 to strengthen the penalties for assaulting a police officer
- **S.3463** to make it a crime to dox a police or peace officer simply because of their profession and with the intent to threaten or intimidate that police or peace officer
- S.6286 to prohibit the disclosure of personnel records with regard to unsubstantiated or unfounded complaints made against first responders
- **S.2034** to provide a \$500,000 benefit for police officers who are seriously disabled or die from injuries incurred in the line of duty
- **S.6285** to establish May 15th as Police Memorial Day in New York State.

According to a recent <u>State of Safety in America</u> report by Safewise, New York is the state "most worried about safety" in the nation, with 70 percent of New Yorkers reporting that they are "concerned daily" about their safety. In addition, only 40 percent of New Yorkers feel safe in their everyday lives, while 78 percent think crime is increasing.