



S U P P O R T

MEMORANDUM IN

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OF

A.147 – Paulin / S.366 – Gallivan

The CSEA strongly supports the passage of this legislation.

This bill amends section 207-c of the General Municipal Law to allow all counties the option of providing full pay and benefits for county probation officers who are injured on the job. Currently, only Nassau County probation officers are provided with this benefit.

CSEA represents probation officers in 46 counties across New York. These officers play a vital role in the criminal justice system and have daily and direct interactions with individuals who have been convicted of crimes but who do not necessarily need incarceration. County probation officers are exposed on a daily basis to the same risks and dangers that police officers, correction officers and district attorney investigators face, all of whom are entitled to benefits under this law.

Despite the danger of exposure to violence, assaults and injury, most counties do not have the statutory authority to provide probation officers with similar medical and wage protections that other law enforcement and first responders are entitled to. This bill would correct this inequity and will allow counties the option of offering county probation officers full payment of medical expenses and salary if they are injured in the line of duty.

Importantly, this bill would not impose any mandates on local governments. Instead, it would allow counties to choose to provide this benefit and would allow county probation officers to negotiate such a benefit with their employer. Further, this bill would have no fiscal impact to the state.

On behalf of more than 300,000 active and retired, public and private employees across New York State, CSEA strongly urges the passage of this legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

Fran Turner
Director