

“I want to thank the Senate Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee and its chairs, Senator Vulakovich and Senator Costa, for holding this hearing and considering my legislation (Senate Bill 575) to established Length of Service Award Programs (LOSAP) for firefighter relief association.

LOSAPs are used in a number of other states to increase recruitment and retention efforts in volunteer fire companies. It is my hope that they can be used as tool to ensure retention of existing volunteer members and to provide incentives in recruiting new volunteer firefighters here in Pennsylvania.

I’ve worked on this legislation with local firefighters and firefighter relief associations in my district who are eager to see it become law. And there is also companion bill in this House, House Bill 1061, introduced by state Rep. Frank Farry.”

- State Senator Andy Dinniman