



NEW YORK STATE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL

AFFILIATED WITH BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES DEPARTMENT AFL-CIO
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Dear Member of Congress:

On behalf of the New York State Building & Construction Trades Council, representing 200,000 workers throughout the State, I write in strong support of S.2683/H.R.4965, the “9/11 Responder and Survivor Health Funding Correction Act.” We applaud sponsors Senator Kirsten Gillibrand and Representative Carolyn Maloney for putting together this important piece of legislation.

In 2015, the reauthorization of the World Trade Center Health Program through 2090 to monitor and treat those developing 9/11 illnesses was applauded as its efficacy and utility had become undisputed. However, this reauthorization imposed spending caps which were tied to inflation. With medical inflation increasing faster than regular inflation, the program faces a funding shortfall beginning in 2025. This legislation will address these funding issues while also making targeted amendments to the program to ensure that it is running efficiently.

This program serves responders and survivors from the World Trade Center and lower Manhattan, the Pentagon, and the Shanksville crash site, who live in every State and 434 out of 435 Congressional Districts. It is absolutely critical that the United States renews its commitment to taking care of these individuals to the fullest extent possible.

As the anniversary of the devastating September 11th attacks approaches, we see no better way for Congress to demonstrate such a commitment than to pass S.2683/H.R.4965 and show the world that we will never forget the brave men and women who assisted and survived in the tragic events of that day.

Thank you very much for your consideration and time on this urgent matter.

Gary LaBarbera
President
New York State Building and Construction Trades Council