

**“Join in cosponsoring the “Continued Costs of the September 11<sup>th</sup> Terrorist Attacks Act”**

Dear Colleague:

Please join us in supporting the brave men and women who ran towards danger and helped in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks by cosponsoring the Continued Costs of the September 11<sup>th</sup> Terrorist Attacks Act.

Everyone remembers the 2,997 people who perished from the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001 and have become familiar with the impact that the toxins at Ground Zero have had on the tens of thousands of first responders, law enforcement, and relief workers who assisted with the clean-up.

In response, Congress passed the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, which created the World Trade Center Health Program (WTCHP) and reopened the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund. In subsequent years, Congress, with bipartisan support in 2015 and 2019, moved to expand both programs’ funding and extend their authorizations to ensure that both those injured and their families get the help they need and deserve.

Unfortunately, there are still costs associated with the terrorist attacks that are accruing on an annual basis, reverberating through the FDNY and NYPD pension systems.

After not initially recognizing the impact of these terrorist attacks, the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) reimbursed the State and City pension systems for \$290 million, based on the disaster declarations made by President Bush in the aftermath of 9/11, for unanticipated costs of the pension-linked death benefits for the 343 FDNY members and 28 active-duty and retired NYPD officers killed that fateful day. However, New York City’s Office of the Actuary estimates that the cost of 9/11-related retirements and deaths has soared to roughly \$3.4 billion — and will keep growing.

The Continued Costs of the September 11<sup>th</sup> Terrorist Attacks Act would allow FEMA to reimburse the State and City pension systems for the loss in pension payments due to the unanticipated deaths of those who responded the terrorist attacks and who participated in the clean-up in the weeks following the attacks.

To honor those we lost and to thank those who risked everything to save their fellow Americans, we urge you to co-sponsor this legislation and join us in supporting our first responders. In doing so, we would guarantee that these heroic men and women and their families are able to continue to receive the benefits they sorely deserve. Please contact Kevin Gannon at [kevin.gannon@mail.house.gov](mailto:kevin.gannon@mail.house.gov) in Rep. Garbarino’s office or Alison Cohen at [alison.cohen@mail.house.gov](mailto:alison.cohen@mail.house.gov) in Rep. Nadler’s office to co-sponsor this legislation

Sincerely,

Andrew R. Garbarino  
Member of Congress

Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress

Anthony D’Esposito  
Member of Congress

Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress