



TWU Local 100 Veterans Committee Newsletter



Veterans Lobby Day A Huge Success

Calling it "an amazing success," and "the best lobby day I've been to," Local 100 officers came back from the TWU Local 100 Veteran's Lobby Day in Albany May 7th in high spirits.

RTO Vice President **Kevin Harrington** said the day was a powerful follow-up to the union's March 12th Lobby Day for a very concrete reason: **State Senator Bill Larkin** (RC-Cornwall-on-Hudson), a retired Lieutenant Colonel who served 23 years in active duty with the U. S. Army, heard TWU veterans on that day and promised he would get involved.

Larkin delivered big-time. He is co-sponsoring a bill with Assemblywoman Amy Paulin (D-Westchester) which covers all veterans who are members of public retirement systems, allowing them to obtain pension credit for military service.

Their bill, **A6974/S4714**, would consolidate at least five separate veterans bills that are now pending.

Twenty seven TWU Local 100 veterans took the union bus to Albany, and spent the day lobbying 30 legislators, speaking mainly to the principals and not aides.

Since returning, TWU Veterans have seen the number of co-sponsors of these bills grow, all in response to our lobbying. Legislators who were unaware of the bill and with whom we visited are now co-sponsors. Assembly members and state senators from the important Finance and Government employees committees have signed to co-sponsor the bills as well. We are moving forward and organizing our resources.

Local 100 President **John Samuelsen** has authorized that TWU Veterans Buttons be sent to to all TWU Veterans who sign on to our data sheet, **please see back sheet to do so.**

We are in the closing days of this legislative session which adjourns on June 22 with a limited number of session days left.

So it is important to write your legislators now

urging support for this legislation.

You can find your representative at:

NYS Senators:

<http://www.nysenate.gov/senators>

NYS Assembly persons:

<http://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/?sh=search>

Visiting your representative's offices is also a powerful tool.

We also have a new TWU Veteran's button, see upper right corner logo.

In the coming weeks we have a great deal of work to do to get this done this year. Veterans should visit their Assembly and State Senator's local offices urging support and co-sponsoring for our bills. If the bill gets passed we will then begin to lobby the Governor to sign it.



Top: Local 100 participants at Veterans Lobby Day. Above: Assm. Abbate, left, with group and VP Harrington.

Additional Veterans Bill Sponsors Jump Aboard Since May 7th Lobby Day Good Work Vets!

SENATE BILL S-4714

Original Senators (3) that introduced bill S-4714 on 4/19/13: Larkin, R, Newburgh; DeFrancisco, R, Syracuse; Ritchie, R, Watertown

Senators (6) who have since jumped on to co-sponsor bill S-4714: Adams, D, Brooklyn; Avella, D, Queens; Gipson, D, Poughkeepsie; Golden, R, Brooklyn; Martins, R, Garden City; Seward, R, Oneonta

ASSEMBLY BILL A-6974

Original Assembly Members (10) that introduced bill A-6974: Paulin, D, Scarsdale; Schimel, D, Great Neck; Colton, D, Brooklyn; Schimminger, D, Kenmore; Gunther, D, Middletown; Maisel, D, Brooklyn; Ramos, D, Central Islip; Weprin, D, Holliswood; Hevesi, D, Forrest Hills; Roberts, D, Syracuse

Assembly Members (5) that have since

jumped on to co-sponsor bill A-6974: Benedetto, D, Bronx; Gantt, D, Rochester; Steck, D, Schenectady; Russell, D, Watertown; Rosenthal, D, Manhattan

Additional multi sponsors of veterans bills: Arroyo, D, Bronx; Cusick, D, Staten Island; Gottfried, D, Manhattan; Hooper, D, Hempstead; Kellner, D, Roosevelt Island; Magee, D, Oneida; Miller, D, Queens; Raia, R, Northport; Rivera, D, Bronx; Rosenthal, D, Manhattan; Weisenberg, D, Long Beach; Wright, D, Manhattan

Assembly Members (1) who have since jumped on to multi-sponsor bill: Curran, R, Lynbrook

Our First TWU 100 Veterans Lobby Day Held on May 7th was a huge success!!



All TWU Local 100 Veterans are encouraged to join the TWU 100 veterans committee!

You'll receive important updates on Veterans legislation and be able to join us in future events! Fill out and Return this form today!

Name _____ Pass # _____ Division _____
Address _____
Phone # _____ E-mail _____
Branch of Service _____ Years Served _____