



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Terrence Murphy

## Mission Accomplished: New York Vietnam Veterans Equality Bill Signed

TERRENCE MURPHY November 6, 2015

| ISSUE: **VETERANS, VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA**



SOMERS, NY - A piece of legislation that gives parity to the Vietnam Veterans of America with other veterans organizations was signed into law by the Governor. Today, New York State Senator Terrence Murphy, who authored the law in the Senate, was joined by Assemblyman Todd Kaminsky, the Assembly sponsor of the bill, to announce Governor Cuomo's signing of this milestone piece of legislation for New York's Vietnam veterans.

"I am honored to stand here today to announce that the passage of the Vietnam Veterans' Equality Act has been signed into law by Governor Cuomo," Senator Murphy said. "These brave soldiers should never have been mistreated by our nation and state and I proudly stand here to say thank you for your service, mission accomplished and welcome home!"

Until last week, the Vietnam Veterans of America was not recognized by New York State as an official benevolent order. With the passing, and signing, of Senator Murphy's legislation, the VVA will now have the status and resources to better serve New York's Vietnam Veterans, along with the other rights and privileges conferred to other traditional veterans service organizations.

"I am honored to have to had the privilege of introducing and passing bipartisan legislation officially recognizing the Vietnam Veterans of America," said Assemblyman Todd Kaminsky. "Those who gave so much to our country at the very least deserve to be recognized as the heroes they are. In advance of Veterans Day, let us all resolve to do whatever we can in the coming year to support our veterans. I would like to thank Senator Terrance Murphy for inviting me to today's ceremony and for his leadership on the issue."

"The implementation of the chapter Vietnam Veterans of America is an historical achievement for New York State," said Assemblyman Steve Katz. "It is about time New York State took the necessary steps to finally truly recognize and honor these great heroes for their service and sacrifices to maintain our country's safety and freedom. I commend Senator Murphy and Assemblyman Kaminsky for introducing this legislation. Let's always continue to support our veterans for what they continue to do for our community and our great state."

"This legislation is a reminder of those who served our nation," said Westchester County's Director of Veteran's Affairs Ron Tocci. "The VVA provides a myriad of services including lobbying for the necessary healthcare all veterans deserve. I applaud Senator Murphy and

Assemblyman Kaminsky for their hard work and dedication to New York's veterans."

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#### RELATED LEGISLATION

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## 2015-S4283

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- Introduced
- - In Committee Assembly
  - In Committee Senate
- - On Floor Calendar Assembly
  - On Floor Calendar Senate
- - Passed Assembly
  - Passed Senate
- Delivered to Governor
- Signed By Governor
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Declares the Vietnam Veterans of America to be benevolent orders

March 11, 2015

Signed by Governor

Sponsored by [Terrence Murphy](#)

Do you support this bill?

NAY