



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Gustavo Rivera

## "Vets Connect" Bill Passes the New York State Senate

GUSTAVO RIVERA May 23, 2016

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State Senator Gustavo Rivera released the following statement today after bill S775A, also known as the Vets Connect, passed the New York State Senate. The Vets Connect bill, which is sponsored by Senator Rivera in the Senate and Assemblymember Jeffrey Dinowitz in the Assembly, will enable veterans to voluntarily identify themselves to receive benefits information when applying or renewing their driver's license through the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Vets Connect has passed unanimously in the State Senate for the last three years in a row, but has never been brought for a vote in the Assembly Transportation Committee.

"I am proud that for the third consecutive year in a row my colleagues in the Senate have joined me in passing the Vets Connect bill. Veterans that have served our country are not always made adequately aware of the benefits and programs available to them and this measure would create another avenue to ensure they are properly notified. I urge Chairman Gantt to not allow another year to go by before giving his colleagues in the Assembly Transportation Committee an opportunity to review this common sense measure."