

## 2017-K1129

Assembly Resolution No. 1129

BY: M. of A. Espinal

URGING the New York State Congressional delegation  
to pass the Military Veterans Caregiver Service  
Improvement Act of 2017, H.R. 1472

WHEREAS, The federal legislation, the Military Veteran Caregiver  
Services Improvement Act of 2017, expands eligibility for the family  
caregiver program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to include  
members of the Armed Forces or veterans who are seriously injured or who  
became ill on active duty prior to September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, Under this proposal services to caregivers of veterans are  
expanded to include child care services, financial planning, and legal  
services; and

WHEREAS, The support program would be terminated on October 1, 2022,  
except any caregiver activities carried out on September 30, 2022, shall  
be continued on and after October 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, The legislation authorizes the transfer to post 9/11  
veterans education assistance to family members of veterans who are  
retired for a physical disability or who are seriously injured veterans  
in need of family caregiver services, without regard to  
length-of-service requirements; and

WHEREAS, An interagency working group would be established to review and report on policies relating to the caregivers of veterans and members of the Armed Forces under this Act; and

WHEREAS, Military caregivers consistently experience worse health, greater strains in family relationships, and more workplace problems than non-caregivers, and it is worst for post 9/11 caregivers; and

WHEREAS, Military caregivers also face an elevated risk for depression. Caregivers who spend more time caregiving and those who help care recipients cope with behavioral problems are most likely to exhibit symptoms of depression; and

WHEREAS, This federal legislation is endorsed by the Vietnam Veterans of America; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the New York State Congressional delegation be and hereby is respectfully memorialized by this Legislative Body to pass legislation to help caregivers of veterans and seriously injured service members, H.R. 1472; and be it further

RESOLVED, The copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to each member of the Congressional delegation from the State of New York; John Rowan, President, Vietnam Veterans of America, and Ned D. Foote, President, Vietnam Veterans of America New York State Council.