

Dear Distinguished Legislators:

My name is Michael Troman and I am President of Local 375, The Civil Service Technical Guild of DC37. I would like to submit testimony in favor and support of the Early Retirement Incentive Bill.

The main benefit of passing this bill, is that layoffs will be averted. My members express concerns about potential layoffs to me daily. They are extremely worried about the consequences of layoffs, such as loss of income, medical benefits and the ability to take care of their families. This is a real and very frightening concern. They are scared!!

The ERI Bill would expedite or speed up the retirement of potentially thousands of city workers who are higher paid, many in senior titles, and who would not have retired or been eligible to retire at this time. This would save the City millions of dollars.

By averting layoffs, we are averting city employees from being forced onto unemployment, which has its own related immediate costs to related budgets. Employees who are laid off also increase demands on social programs providing services and financial assistance.

There is currently an exodus from NY State and NY City which will be exacerbated by potential layoffs. This would have a negative impact on Congressional districts and revenues returned to the State based upon population.

Our Local 375 members, along with all DC37 members, are hard -working, dedicated people, who have given their hearts and soles to this City. This bill will give them peace of mind, whether it is a member wanting to retire, or a member fearing layoffs.

Passing this ERI Bill shows compassion and concern from you, our elected officials during this time of crises.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to voice my support for the ERI, on behalf of myself and my members.