

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Steve Stern

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ADOPTS LEGISLATOR STERN'S
‘PROTECT OUR FALLEN HEROES ACT’**

New Law Provides Nationwide Protection for Military Funerals

HUNTINGTON, NY – Legislator Steve Stern’s (D-Huntington, 16th LD) “*Protect our Fallen Heroes Act*” which protects military funerals in Suffolk County from protestors seeking to inflame and disrupt services, has been adopted by the United States Congress and signed into law by the President. Legislator Stern is the Chairman of the Veterans and Seniors Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature.

In 2010, the Legislature unanimously passed Legislator Stern’s bill, which was necessitated by nationwide and local protests by members of a radical fringe group who have and continue to disrupt military funerals at churches and cemeteries with disrespectful and abusive signs and verbal assaults upon family members grieving the loss of their loved ones.

Today, “*The Honoring America’s Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012*” was signed into law, providing protection to military families nationwide. “Suffolk County has always taken the lead in protecting our veterans and it is gratifying to see that the Federal Government is finally extending this protection to all of our military families across the nation,” Legislator Stern said. “I am profoundly disturbed that legislation was required to insure respect, dignity and compassion for our military families who have made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our great nation and our way of life. I am proud to have led this important initiative to respect our fallen heroes and ensure dignity for all American families.”