VETO MESSAGE:

VETO MESSAGE - No. 159

TO THE ASSEMBLY:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, the following bill:

Assembly Bill Number 9367-A entitled:

"AN ACT to amend the general municipal law, in relation to training of fire officers in cities of one million or more"

NOT APPROVED

This bill would require that fire officers in New York City receive an additional 80 hours of field and classroom training in the City's fire and building and construction codes and on the City's ordinances.

The New York City Mayor's Office has urged me to disapprove this bill for several reasons, including implementing the bill would cost the City \$20.5 million at a time when the City is facing budget deficits.

I believe more training is appropriate, but I will not dictate to the City the extent to which it should instruct its fire officers in such matters. I hope the City and its unions will cooperate and reach agreement that ensure that its fire officers receive the necessary training. If they do not, I am prepared to consider future legislation on this subject.

The bill is disapproved.

(signed) ANDREW M. CUOMO