ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY IN NEW YORK

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New York League of Conservation Voters
About

The New York League of Conservation Voters is a non-partisan, policy making and political action organization that works to make environmental protection a top priority with elected officials, decision-makers and the voters by evaluating incumbent performance and endorsing and electing environmental leaders to office in New York State.
Outreach

Blueprint For A Greener New York City

2009 City Council Policy Agenda

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Blueprint For A Greener New York State

2009 State Policy Agenda

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Outreach To Voters

The Saratogian
Murphy commended for clean energy move

Efforts to improve New York’s economy and environment took a major leap forward last week when Congressman Scott Murphy voted in favor of the American Clean Energy and Security Act.

For years, residents of the Hudson Valley, the Capital District and the North Country have been urging their elected leaders to create good, stable employment in career fields that are growing. That is exactly what the American Clean Energy and Security Act will do, by creating incentives for companies to install and build solar panels, wind turbines and other cutting-edge technologies.

This legislation will also help the economy by reducing our dangerous dependence on foreign sources of fossil fuels — right now, far too many of our energy dollars are going overseas when we should be producing energy right here at home. In addition, the American Clean Energy and Security Act represents the federal government’s first comprehensive approach to regulating the pollution that causes climate change.

We applaud Congressman Murphy for taking this bold step toward a clean energy future — a step that will also create new jobs in the region that cannot be shipped overseas.

New York League of Conservation Voters
Outreach To Environmentalists

Waxman-Markey: Critical Legislation Despite Flaws

Submitted by Eric Stern on Thu, 2009-07-02 14:56.

The passage of the Waxman-Markey Bill by the House of Representatives late last month was a monumental step forward in the nation’s effort to fight climate change. As New York Times Columnist Thomas Friedman noted on Wednesday: “This bill is the first comprehensive attempt by the U.S. to mitigate climate change by putting a price on carbon emissions.”

The legislation introduces a cap-and-trade system that limits national carbon dioxide emissions through the use of a tradable permit system, modeled after the successful system implemented in Europe.

Some environmental groups opposed the bill, arguing that too many concessions were made to special interests in order to achieve its passage. We at NYLCV believe that achieving a solid cap-and-trade federal policy was better than having a perfect one remain absent from U.S. law.

The House vote is as symbolic as it is practically important. The Senate’s failure to ratify Kyoto remains a stain on American claims to be environmental stewards of the earth. Looking forward to Copenhagen, the United States needs to set an example to bring polluters like China and India on board for an international accord. Passage of the Waxman-Markey bill was a vital step on this path.

City Council To Hold Hearing On Green Buildings Legislation


The New York City Council’s Environmental Protection Committee will convene on Friday morning to consider four landmark legislative proposals that together comprise the “Greater, Greener Buildings Plan.”

Broken into four bills sponsored by Council Members Garodnick, Gennaro, Recchia and Mark-Viverito, the plan seeks to significantly reduce carbon emissions from the city’s buildings. Ranging from the upgrading of lighting systems to the creation of an energy code for environmental standards, the NYC Green Buildings Plan is a crucial step in meeting the Big Apple’s climate change goals.

NYLCV has long called attention to this issue. Studies have shown that nearly 80 percent of the city’s greenhouse gas emissions come not from cars, but from buildings.

Our Policy Director, Joshua Nachowitz, will testify before the City Council in support of the green buildings package. With the backing of Mayor Bloomberg, Speaker Quinn, Council Member Gennaro and others, we hope to see the legislation adopted in the near future.
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