



SUPPORT

A.2742 (Fahy)

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to bio heating fuel requirements

The New York League of Conservation Voters supports A. 2742, which would increase the amount of biofuel usage and in turn decrease harmful emissions when burning oil.

Emissions from heating oil contain fine particulate matter and airborne black carbon. These emissions are known to threaten public health in both the short-term and the long-term. In the short-term, heating oil emissions can worsen asthma and heart disease, and can cause throat and lung irritation, coughing, and shortness of breath. In the long-term, increased mortality from lung cancer and heart disease have been linked to heating oil emissions, especially fine particulate matter. These pollutants in a home can cause a three-fold increase in the risk of childhood asthma.

Heating oil containing biofuel burns cleaner and more efficiently than regular heating oil, reducing pollutants and cleaning the air. Biofuels are a renewable source of energy that produces less harmful gases when burned. A biofuel can be derived from organic matter that can be regrown and remade indefinitely.

A. 2742 would increase the amount of biofuel sold in New York State heating oil by phasing in blending requirements once certain production targets are met. This will prevent price spikes that could result from supply and demand issues. For these reasons the New York League of Conservation Voters (NYLCV) urges passage of this legislation.

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