



SUPPORT

A. 2875 (Kavanagh)

The New York League of Conservation Voters supports A. 2875 (Kavanagh) which would eliminate a potential source of environmental mercury contamination.

Mercury is a highly toxic substance that poses a great risk to our environment and public health. Consumption of fish contaminated with mercury is a significant public health threat throughout the state. The legislature has already taken action to reduce mercury in the environment by passing several measures, including a bill creating a thermostat collection program. Passing this bill would further the legislative goal of reducing environmental mercury.

Compact fluorescent light bulbs contain a small amount of mercury and are not currently covered by the state's mercury collection programs. Consequently, they contribute to the total amount of mercury entering New York's landfills and incinerators, posing a threat to the environment.

The bill adopts the European Union's most up-to-date standards for mercury light bulbs. Since most CFL bulbs are produced in China for a global market, manufacturers would easily be able to comply with these standards.

NYLCV therefore supports A. 2875 and urges its passage.

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