



SUPPORT

A. 2234/S. 3110 (Peoples-Stokes/Parker)

AN ACT to An act to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to establishing a permanent environmental justice advisory group and an environmental justice interagency coordinating council

The New York League of Conservation Voters supports A.2234/S.3110 (Peoples-Stokes/Parker), which would make the Department of Environmental Conservation's Environmental Justice Advisory Group permanent, establish an Environmental Justice Interagency Coordinating Council, and require agencies to enact and enforce effective environmental justice policies.

Communities with marginalized and low-income populations are far more likely to disproportionately face the consequences of environmental degradation, including heightened health risks. The initial Environmental Justice Advisory Group established by the Department of Environmental Conservation issued recommendations to further environmental justice in 2002, many of which have not been enacted.

A. 2234/S. 3110 would make the Environmental Justice Advisory Group permanent so as to allow the group to credibly oversee environmental justice policies within state agencies. Furthermore, it would establish an Environmental Justice Interagency Coordinating Council to take point on state environmental justice activities. Finally, it would require all state agencies that significantly impact the environment to adopt certain regulations in compliance with environmental justice policy. These actions will further New York's progress towards environmental justice and provide concrete quality of life improvements for disadvantaged communities.

For these reasons, the New York League of Conservation Voters strongly urges passage of A. 2234/S. 3110.

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