

S. 7010-C/A. 7735-A (Kaminsky/Jones)

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to aquatic invasive species

The New York League of Conservation Voters supports S. 7010-C/A. 7735-A (Kaminsky/Jones), which would protect New York waters from the threat of invasive species.

Aquatic invasive species can disrupt local food chains, negatively impact water quality, outcompete with native species, and can lead to negative economic impacts. Protecting New York waters from invasive species is essential to maintaining healthy ecosystems and ecosystem services. The current "clean, dry, and drain" law, which has been effective in providing protocols for decontamination and best management practices to protect New York waters from invasive species, was enacted in 2014 and is about to expire. Monitoring of and action against aquatic invasive species is critically important in New York, especially in the Adirondack Park.

S. 7010-C/A. 7735-A allows the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to establish aquatic invasive species checkpoints within the Adirondack Park and within 10 miles of the Park in order to inspect and, if necessary, decontaminate water craft that are bound for waters within the Park. The bill would also direct DEC to create education and outreach materials for owners of water craft to minimize the risk of their craft carrying invasive species. This legislation is an important step to create permanent safeguards against invasive species in the Adirondacks.

For these reasons, the New York League of Conservation Voters strongly urges passage of S. 7010-C/A. 7735-A.

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