

A. 8807/S. 8241-A (Kassay/Harckham)

AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to the septic system replacement fund

The New York League of Conservation Voters supports A. 8807/S. 8241-A (Kassay/Harckham), which would allow septic systems that significantly reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, or PFOA/PFAS chemicals in treated effluent to be reimbursed at 75% of cost rather than 50% through the State Septic System Replacement Fund.

Aging septic systems that may leak or not be up to current technological standards, as well as cesspools, significantly contribute to groundwater contamination and can also pose other environmental risks. Pollution from aging septic systems and cesspools is an especially pressing issue on Long Island. For this reason, New York State established the State Septic System Replacement Fund within the Environmental Facilities Corporation to reimburse eligible property owners who install a new septic system at up to 50% of the project cost or \$10,000, whichever is less.

A. 8807/S.8241-A would amend the Septic Replacement Fund by allowing projects that at a minimum reduce total nitrogen in treated effluent to 19 mg/l or quantifiably reduce environmental and public health impacts associated with phosphorous and PFOA/PFAS chemicals in effluent to be reimbursed at a rate of 75% or \$25,000, whichever is less. This would expand the accessibility of the Fund to more homeowners, thereby reducing septic and cesspool pollution to a greater extent than the program currently achieves.

For these reasons, the New York League of Conservation Voters strongly urges passage of A. 8807/S. 8241-A (Kassay/Harckham). This bill is on the shortlist for NYLCV's 2025 State Legislative Scorecard.

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