



SUPPORT

S. 643-B (Kavanagh)

An Act to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to rechargeable battery recycling

The New York League of Conservation Voters supports S. 643-B (Kavanagh), which would maximize the removal of unwanted rechargeable batteries from the solid waste stream.

With the rise in electric bike and scooter use in New York, it is crucial to implement proper recycling infrastructure for the rechargeable batteries used. Lithium-ion rechargeable batteries will continue to proliferate since their use in micromobility is essential to a successful transition away from fossil fuels. These batteries can generate large amounts of energy and, while safe when properly manufactured and used, pose a greater fire risk than other types of batteries when improperly used or refurbished.

S. 643-B would amend the current battery recycling law to include the specific types of lithium-ion rechargeable batteries used in e-bikes and e-scooters. The bill will also amend New York State's Environmental Conservation Law to allow the City of New York to enforce provisions of the rechargeable battery law. This is particularly important due to the proliferation of e-bike and e-scooter use throughout New York City, where many substandard or improperly refurbished batteries that are prone to fires are sold to delivery workers who rely on e-bikes to make a living.

S. 643-B would improve battery safety and protect the environment by adding rechargeable lithium-ion batteries to the rechargeable battery recycling law. For these reasons, the New York League of Conservation Voters strongly urges passage of S.643-B

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