



2023-24 POLICY & ADVOCACY AGENDA

NEW YORK STATE POLICY AND LEGISLATION

New York Home Energy Affordable Transition Act (NY HEAT Act)

Cleaner Home Energy and Lower Bills

S. 2016 / A. 4592

The NY HEAT Act halts new gas pipelines and infrastructure from being built. It gives the Public Service Commission the authority to regulate gas utilities in a manner that aligns with the State's Climate Act. The bill removes the legal basis and subsidies driving the expansion of gas systems and requires the Commission to adopt rules that decarbonize and right-size the gas distribution system. Utilities will be able to transition to neighborhood-scale clean heating-and-cooling technologies such as thermal energy networks. Home energy bills will be capped for low- and moderate-income households at 6% of income.

Packaging Reduction and Recycling Infrastructure Act

S. 4246A / A. 5322A

This bill would help create a circular economy by instituting extended producer responsibility. Companies with a net annual income of more than \$1 million would be required to reduce consumer packaging, improve recycling efforts of their product packaging, and help update recycling infrastructure. Additionally, companies will need to create and/or maintain reusable and refill infrastructure, contribute financially to municipal recycling programs, and reduce toxins in packaging.

Ban the Sale of Single Use Plastic Water Bottles in Port Authority Facilities

A. 5112

Bans the sale of single-use plastic water bottles of 21 oz. or less, with a one-year grace period to install more water fountains. Port Authority facilities include JFK, LGA, and Newark airports and bus stations. A companion bill will need to be passed in the New Jersey State Legislature.

NEW YORK CITY POLICY & LEGISLATION

Urban Forest Plan

Intro 1065

On or before July 31, 2025, an urban forest plan will be developed that identifies strategies and sets goals to protect, care for, and expand NYC's tree canopy from its current 22 percent to 30 percent of the city's land.

Strengthen Local Law 97 Implementation

Ensure that NYC Accelerator has the resources and community partners to advise significantly more building owners in low-to-moderate income communities on Local Law 97 compliance. This includes understanding different building technologies, and the financing and subsidies available to pay for upgrades that reduce carbon emissions and avoid fines.