



## MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

### **S.2935-C (Parker)/A.4866-C (Kelles) JUST ENERGY TRANSITION ACT**

The NYS Public Health Association urges you to support the Just Energy Transition Act S.2935-C (Parker)/A.4866-C (Kelles). We are a 700-member organization of New York State public health professionals in government, non-profit organizations, healthcare, business, academia, and education.

NYSPHA cares deeply about the dire and worsening effects on public health, of extreme weather caused by increasing Green House Gas (GHG) emissions. Scientific evidence shows that GHG's are sickening, and even killing us! People at all socioeconomic levels, but especially in Black, Brown, and low-income communities, are suffering, increasingly, from asthma, heart and lung disease, heatstroke, vector-borne diseases, trauma, and mental illness. We need ACTION NOW to eliminate fossil fuels, the source of our harm, and move fairly and equitably toward a safe and clean environment.

NYSPHA joins NYRenews, a 370-member coalition and the force behind NYS's progressive climate law, the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), in urgently supporting the immediate passage of the Just Energy Transition Act (S.2935-C/A.4866-C). The Just Energy Transition Act provides a plan to guide the replacement and redevelopment of at least 4 GW of New York State's fossil fuel facilities and sites by 2030. It lays out a clear, mandatory direction for moving forward with the transition off of fossil fuels per the Climate Act. This bill requires the state to study and operationalize step by step how to get large and inefficient polluting power plants on a short timeline (1 year upon passage). Transitioning these facilities to renewable energy as soon as possible will hold climate and economic benefits and public health benefits, especially for environmental justice (EJ) and disadvantaged communities (DAC). Incorporating this bill will lay out a responsible process to achieve the commitments of the CLCPA by prioritizing a just transition that honors frontline communities.

The State has already committed to replacing and redeveloping its fossil fuel facilities. New York's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act further mandates an emissions-free electricity system by 2040. This bill would enable a responsible process to achieve this commitment by prioritizing a just transition that honors the priorities of frontline communities. Enabling transparent public proceedings and clear implementation guidelines ensures that we can operationalize a much-needed transition while accounting for energy democracy and system reliability

**NYSPHA urges you to support the Just Energy Transition Act to transition polluting power plants to renewable energy as soon as possible.**

For more information, contact [advocacy@NYSPHA.org](mailto:advocacy@NYSPHA.org)