

# STATE OF NEW YORK

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2353

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

January 13, 2017

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Introduced by Sens. PARKER, COMRIE -- read twice and ordered printed,  
and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Energy and Tele-  
communications

AN ACT to amend the tax law, in relation to biofuel production credit  
for production of biomethane

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assem-  
bly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Section 28 of the tax law, as added by section 1 of part X  
2 of chapter 62 of the laws of 2006, is renumbered section 38-a.

3 § 2. Subdivisions (a) and (b) of section 38-a of the tax law, subdivi-  
4 sion (a) as amended by section 1 of part K of chapter 59 of the laws of  
5 2012, subdivision (b) as added by section 1 of part X of chapter 62 of  
6 the laws of 2006, such section as renumbered by section one of this act,  
7 are amended to read as follows:

8 (a) General. A taxpayer subject to tax under article nine, nine-A or  
9 twenty-two of this chapter shall be allowed a credit against such tax  
10 pursuant to the provisions referenced in subdivision (d) of this  
11 section. The credit (or pro rata share of earned credit in the case of a  
12 partnership) for each gallon of biofuel produced at a biofuel plant on  
13 or after January first, two thousand six shall equal fifteen cents per  
14 gallon or twenty-five cents per gallon for production of biomethane  
15 after the production of the first [~~forty~~] fifty thousand gallons per  
16 year presented to market. The credit under this section shall be capped  
17 at two and one-half million dollars per taxpayer per taxable year for up  
18 to no more than four consecutive taxable years per biofuel plant. If the  
19 taxpayer is a partner in a partnership or shareholder of a New York S  
20 corporation, then the cap imposed by the preceding sentence shall be  
21 applied at the entity level, so that the aggregate credit allowed to all  
22 the partners or shareholders of each such entity in the taxable year  
23 does not exceed two and one-half million dollars. The tax credit allowed

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[~~-~~] is old law to be omitted.

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1 pursuant to this section shall apply to taxable years beginning before  
2 January first, two thousand twenty.

3 (b) Definitions. For the purpose of this section, the following terms  
4 shall have the following meanings:

5 (1) "Biofuel" means a fuel which includes biodiesel ~~[and]~~, ethanol or  
6 biomethane.

7 (2) The term "biodiesel" shall mean a fuel comprised exclusively of  
8 mono-alkyl esters of long chain fatty acids derived from vegetable oils  
9 or animal fats, designated B100, which meets the specifications of Amer-  
10 ican Society of Testing and Materials designation D 6751-02.

11 (3) The term "ethanol" shall mean ethyl alcohol manufactured in the  
12 United States and its territories and sold (i) for fuel use and which  
13 has been rendered unfit for beverage use in a manner and which is  
14 produced at a facility approved by the federal bureau of alcohol, tobac-  
15 co and firearms for the production of ethanol for fuel, or (ii) as dena-  
16 tured ethanol used by blenders and refiners which has been rendered  
17 unfit for beverage use. The term "biofuel" may also include any other  
18 standard approved by the New York state energy and research development  
19 authority.

20 ~~[(2)]~~ (4) The term "biomethane" shall mean biogases that are emitted  
21 as organic wastes that break down in airless environments. Biomethane is  
22 produced from a variety of biomass and/or biogas sources, including  
23 landfill gas, solid waste, municipal wastewater and agricultural manure  
24 via airless tanks called anaerobic digesters. It can also be produced  
25 from other sources such as forestry and agricultural waste through the  
26 process of thermal gasification and methanation, although these technol-  
27 ogies are not yet widely used. Biomethane is a renewable fuel, easily  
28 distributed through existing infrastructure and is suitable for applica-  
29 tions from light-duty vehicles to heavy-duty freight trucks.

30 (5) "Biofuel plant" means a commercial facility located in New York  
31 state at which one or more biofuels are produced. For the purposes of  
32 this section, any commercial facility where biomethane is produced shall  
33 be considered a separate biofuel plant.

34 § 3. Section 187-c of the tax law, as amended by section 2 of part K  
35 of chapter 59 of the laws of 2012, is amended to read as follows:

36 § 187-c. Biofuel production credit. A taxpayer shall be allowed a  
37 credit to be computed as provided in section ~~[twenty-eight]~~ thirty-  
38 eight-a of this chapter, ~~[as added by part X of chapter sixty-two of the~~  
39 ~~laws of two thousand six,~~] against the tax imposed by this article.  
40 Provided, however, that the amount of such credit allowed against the  
41 tax imposed by section one hundred eighty-four of this article shall be  
42 the excess of the amount of such credit over the amount of any credit  
43 allowed by this section against the tax imposed by section one hundred  
44 eighty-three of this article. In no event shall the credit under this  
45 section be allowed in an amount which will reduce the tax payable to  
46 less than the applicable minimum tax fixed by section one hundred eight-  
47 y-three or one hundred eighty-five of this article. If, however, the  
48 amount of the credit allowed under this section for any taxable year  
49 reduces the tax to such amount, the excess shall be treated as an over-  
50 payment of tax to be credited or refunded in accordance with the  
51 provisions of section six hundred eighty-six of this chapter. Provided,  
52 however, the provisions of subsection (c) of section one thousand eight-  
53 y-eight of this chapter notwithstanding, no interest shall be paid ther-  
54 eon. The tax credit allowed pursuant to this section shall apply to  
55 taxable years beginning before January first, two thousand twenty.

§ 4. Section 187-c of the tax law, as amended by section 15 of part S of chapter 59 of the laws of 2014, is amended to read as follows:

§ 187-c. Biofuel production credit. A taxpayer shall be allowed a credit to be computed as provided in section ~~[twenty-eight]~~ thirty-eight-a of this chapter, ~~[as added by part X of chapter sixty-two of the laws of two thousand six,~~ against the tax imposed by this article. Provided, however, that the amount of such credit allowed against the tax imposed by section one hundred eighty-four of this article shall be the excess of the amount of such credit over the amount of any credit allowed by this section against the tax imposed by section one hundred eighty-three of this article. In no event shall the credit under this section be allowed in an amount which will reduce the tax payable to less than the applicable minimum tax fixed by section one hundred eighty-three of this article. If, however, the amount of the credit allowed under this section for any taxable year reduces the tax to such amount, the excess shall be treated as an overpayment of tax to be credited or refunded in accordance with the provisions of section six hundred eighty-six of this chapter. Provided, however, the provisions of subsection (c) of section one thousand eighty-eight of this chapter notwithstanding, no interest shall be paid thereon. The tax credit allowed pursuant to this section shall apply to taxable years beginning before January first, two thousand twenty.

§ 5. Subsection (jj) of section 606 of the tax law, as amended by section 4 of part K of chapter 59 of the laws of 2012, is amended to read as follows:

(jj) Biofuel production credit. A taxpayer shall be allowed a credit to be computed as provided in section ~~[twenty-eight]~~ thirty-eight-a of this chapter, ~~[as added by part X of chapter sixty-two of the laws of two thousand six,~~ against the tax imposed by this article. If the amount of the credit allowed under this subsection for any taxable year shall exceed the taxpayer's tax for such year, the excess shall be treated as an overpayment of tax to be credited or refunded in accordance with the provisions of section six hundred eighty-six of this article, provided, however, that no interest shall be paid thereon. The tax credit allowed pursuant to this section shall apply to taxable years beginning before January first, two thousand twenty.

§ 6. Subdivision 24 of section 210-B of the tax law, as added by section 17 of part A of chapter 59 of the laws of 2014, is amended to read as follows:

24. Biofuel production credit. (a) General. A taxpayer shall be allowed a credit, to be computed as provided in section ~~[twenty-eight]~~ thirty-eight-a of this chapter ~~[added as part X of chapter sixty-two of the laws of two thousand six,~~ against the tax imposed by this article. The credit allowed under this subdivision for any taxable year shall not reduce the tax due for such year to less than the fixed dollar minimum amount prescribed in paragraph (d) of subdivision one of section two hundred ten of this article. However, if the amount of credit allowed under this subdivision for any taxable year reduces the tax to such amount or if the taxpayer otherwise pays tax based on the fixed dollar minimum amount, any amount of credit thus not deductible in such taxable year shall be treated as an overpayment of tax to be credited or refunded in accordance with the provisions of section one thousand eighty-six of this chapter. Provided, however, the provisions of subsection (c) of section one thousand eighty-eight of this chapter notwithstanding, no interest shall be paid thereon. The tax credit

1 allowed pursuant to this section shall apply to taxable years beginning  
2 before January first, two thousand twenty.  
3 § 7. This act shall take effect immediately; provided however that the  
4 amendments to section 187-c of the tax law made by section four of this  
5 act shall take effect on the same date as section 15 of part S of chap-  
6 ter 59 of the laws of 2014 takes effect.