

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

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Introduced by Sens. AVELLA, ADDABBO, BRESLIN, DILAN, ESPAILLAT, GIANARIS, HASSELL-THOMPSON, HOYLMAN, KRUEGER, LATIMER, MONTGOMERY, PARKER, PERALTA, PERKINS, RIVERA, SERRANO, SQUADRON, STAVISKY, STEWART-COUSINS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to global warming pollution control

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Legislative findings. Global warming poses a serious threat  
2 to the economic well-being, public health, natural resources and envi-  
3 ronment of New York. The potential adverse impacts of global warming  
4 include the exacerbation of air quality problems, a reduction in the  
5 quality and supply of water to the state, a rise in sea levels resulting  
6 in the displacement of coastal businesses, residents and infrastructure,  
7 damage to marine ecosystems and the natural environment, and an increase  
8 in the incidences of infectious diseases, asthma, and other human  
9 health-related problems. Global warming will have detrimental effects  
10 on some of New York's largest industries, including agriculture, tour-  
11 ism, skiing, recreational and commercial fishing and forestry.  
12 The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, awarded the 2007 Nobel  
13 Peace Prize, determined that burning coal, oil and gas has led to higher  
14 temperatures that are already impacting physical and biological systems.  
15 The panel also projected temperatures would rise more rapidly if green-  
16 house gases are not abated. The panel concluded that reducing emissions  
17 80 percent below current emissions by mid-century would prevent the  
18 worst impacts of global warming.  
19 National and international actions are necessary to fully address the  
20 issue of global warming. Action taken by New York and other states to  
21 reduce emissions of greenhouse gases will have far-reaching effects by  
22 encouraging the federal government, and other countries to act including

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

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1 encouraging the development of sustainable, non-polluting technologies  
2 such as solar, wind, geothermal and ocean currents.

3 S 2. Article 19 of the environmental conservation law is amended by  
4 adding a new title 13 to read as follows:

5 TITLE 13

6 GLOBAL WARMING POLLUTION CONTROL

7 SECTION 19-1301. SHORT TITLE.

8 19-1303. DEFINITIONS.

9 19-1305. GREENHOUSE GAS REPORTING.

10 19-1307. GREENHOUSE GAS LIMITS.

11 S 19-1301. SHORT TITLE.

12 THIS TITLE MAY BE CITED AS THE "GLOBAL WARMING POLLUTION CONTROL ACT".

13 S 19-1303. DEFINITIONS.

14 WHEN USED IN THIS TITLE:

15 1. "GREENHOUSE GAS" MEANS CARBON DIOXIDE, METHANE, NITROUS OXIDE,  
16 HYDROFLUOROCARBONS, PERFLUOROCARBONS, SULFUR HEXAFLUORIDE, AND ANY OTHER  
17 GAS DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO BE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTOR TO  
18 GLOBAL WARMING.

19 2. "GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION SOURCE" MEANS ANY SOURCE OR CATEGORY OF  
20 SOURCES OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMIT-  
21 ED TO EMISSIONS:

22 (A) ASSOCIATED WITH FOSSIL FUELS USED IN THE STATE BY ENTITIES THAT  
23 ARE MANUFACTURERS AND DISTRIBUTORS OF FOSSIL FUELS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT  
24 LIMITED TO, OIL REFINERIES, OIL STORAGE FACILITIES, AND NATURAL GAS  
25 PIPELINES;

26 (B) FROM ANY UTILITY GENERATING OR DELIVERING ELECTRICITY CONSUMED IN  
27 THE STATE, WHETHER THE ELECTRICITY IS GENERATED IN THE STATE, OR GENER-  
28 ATED OUTSIDE THE STATE AND IMPORTED INTO THE STATE, AND ACCOUNTING FOR  
29 TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION LINE LOSSES; AND

30 (C) FROM ANY ADDITIONAL ENTITIES THAT ARE EMITTERS OF GREENHOUSE  
31 GASES, AS DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT, AND APPROPRIATE TO ENABLE THE  
32 DEPARTMENT TO MONITOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE EMISSIONS LIMITS FOR GREEN-  
33 HOUSE GASES ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS TITLE.

34 S 19-1305. GREENHOUSE GAS REPORTING.

35 1. NO LATER THAN MAY 1, 2016, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROMULGATE RULES  
36 AND REGULATIONS REQUIRING ANNUAL GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REPORTING FROM  
37 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION SOURCES. THE REGULATIONS SHALL:

38 (A) INCLUDE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FROM ALL GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION  
39 SOURCES EXPRESSED IN TONS OF CARBON DIOXIDE EQUIVALENTS;

40 (B) ENSURE RIGOROUS AND CONSISTENT ACCOUNTING OF EMISSIONS, AND  
41 PROVIDE REPORTING TOOLS AND FORMATS TO ENSURE COLLECTION OF NECESSARY  
42 DATA; AND

43 (C) ENSURE THAT EACH GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION SOURCE MAINTAINS COMPRE-  
44 HENSIVE EMISSIONS RECORDS OF ANY GREENHOUSE GAS REPORTED FOR AT LEAST  
45 FIVE YEARS.

46 2. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

47 (A) PERIODICALLY REVIEW AND UPDATE ITS EMISSION REPORTING REQUIREMENTS  
48 AT LEAST EVERY FIVE YEARS; AND

49 (B) MAKE REASONABLE EFFORTS TO MAKE ITS REPORTING REGULATIONS CONSIST-  
50 ENT WITH INTERNATIONAL, FEDERAL AND OTHER STATES' GREENHOUSE GAS EMIS-  
51 SION REPORTING PROGRAMS.

52 3. NO LATER THAN JANUARY 1, 2018, AND EVERY THREE YEARS THEREAFTER,  
53 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE A REPORT ON:

1 (A) THE ANNUAL GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FROM ALL GREENHOUSE GAS EMIS-  
2 SION SOURCES, INCLUDING THE RELATIVE CONTRIBUTION OF EACH GREENHOUSE GAS  
3 EMISSION SOURCE TO STATEWIDE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS; AND

4 (B) THE PROGRESS MADE BY THE DEPARTMENT IN ACHIEVING THE REQUIREMENTS  
5 OF SECTION 19-1307 OF THIS TITLE.

6 S 19-1307. GREENHOUSE GAS LIMITS.

7 1. NO LATER THAN JANUARY 1, 2018, THE DEPARTMENT, AFTER A PUBLIC HEAR-  
8 ING, SHALL PROMULGATE RULES AND REGULATIONS SETTING AN ENFORCEABLE LIMIT  
9 ON THE AGGREGATE LEVEL OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FROM ALL GREENHOUSE  
10 GAS EMISSION SOURCES PROVIDED; HOWEVER, THE AGGREGATE LIMIT SHALL NOT BE  
11 GREATER THAN THE AGGREGATE LEVEL OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FOR CALEN-  
12 DAR YEAR 1990.

13 2. (A) ON JANUARY 1, 2022 THE LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF  
14 THIS SECTION SHALL BE REDUCED BY 20 PERCENT.

15 (B) ON JANUARY 1, 2027 THE LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF  
16 THIS SECTION SHALL BE REDUCED BY 30 PERCENT.

17 (C) ON JANUARY 1, 2032 THE LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF  
18 THIS SECTION SHALL BE REDUCED BY 40 PERCENT.

19 (D) ON JANUARY 1, 2037 THE LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF  
20 THIS SECTION SHALL BE REDUCED BY 50 PERCENT.

21 (E) ON JANUARY 1, 2042 THE LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF  
22 THIS SECTION SHALL BE REDUCED BY 60 PERCENT.

23 (F) ON JANUARY 1, 2047 THE LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF  
24 THIS SECTION SHALL BE REDUCED BY 70 PERCENT.

25 (G) ON JANUARY 1, 2052, AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE LIMIT SHALL  
26 REMAIN AT 80 PERCENT BELOW THE LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF  
27 THIS SECTION.

28 3. ANY RULE OR REGULATION THE COMMISSIONER ADOPTS TO COMPLY WITH THIS  
29 SECTION MUST:

30 (A) NOT PLACE OR INCREASE AN ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL OR HEALTH BURDEN  
31 ON A COMMUNITY THAT HAS A SIGNIFICANT LEVEL OF REGULATED AIR CONTAM-  
32 INANT SOURCE EMISSIONS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY AS COMPARED WITH THE COUNTY  
33 AVERAGE;

34 (B) BE COMPATIBLE WITH OTHER EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS PROGRAMS; AND

35 (C) INCLUDE A PLAN TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE TO ADDRESS ADAPTATION TO  
36 CLIMATE CHANGE INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO TERRESTRIAL AND AQUATIC  
37 HABITATS, PLANTS AND ANIMAL SPECIES, CONNECTIVITY OF HABITATS, AND  
38 ECOSYSTEM SERVICES PROVIDED BY NATURAL RESOURCES INCLUDING BUT NOT  
39 LIMITED TO FLOOD CONTROL AND DRINKING WATER SUPPLY.

40 S 3. This act shall take effect immediately.