



# ELECTRIFYNY

## Memo of Support

ElectrifyNY supports the Green Transit ([S3535/A3090](#)), Green Jobs ([S3405/A2083](#)) bills that amend the transportation law to require transit agencies to purchase only zero emissions buses by 2029, and the usage of “best value” procurement of zero emissions buses to create good green jobs. As a statewide coalition of advocates for environmental justice, public transportation, social justice, and good jobs, ElectrifyNY believes these bills will create clean and equitable electric transportation future for New York.

The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act requires New York to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 85% statewide by 2050. This emissions reduction mandate is economy-wide, meaning that every source of greenhouse gas emissions will need to be significantly reduced within the next 30 years. Given that the transportation sector is the largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in the state, it is imperative that New York develops a coordinated plan for transitioning to electric vehicles.

While we are encouraged that the Metropolitan Transportation Authority has committed to transitioning to electric-powered transportation by 2040, all communities deserve the benefits of electrification. Diesel emissions contribute to a variety of [harmful health outcomes](#) such as higher rates of asthma, cardiovascular impacts, diabetes and low birth weight. The impacts of these harmful emissions are felt most in low-income communities and communities of color, as they are the [most frequent riders of public transportation](#), and most likely to live near heavily trafficked areas. The Green Transit bill can help address these health impacts as it directs the Department of Transportation to give preference in funding disbursements for capital plans to transit authorities that commit to electrification.

Moreover, with the current statewide economic downturn, the Green Jobs bill ensures that a transition to zero emission buses would also spur the creation of good, family-sustaining jobs. The Green Jobs bill encourages the purchasing of buses and charging infrastructure from high-road manufacturers. Transit authorities would use a “best-value” contracting framework to evaluate bids and incentivize bidders to earn credits through proposals committed to good wages and benefits, training and retraining programs, and targeted hiring in communities traditionally excluded from good jobs in the manufacturing sector. In addition, by incentivizing in-state facility usage or development, this could contribute to job growth in the transportation manufacturing industry located throughout upstate New York.

ElectrifyNY urges you to co-sponsor the Green Transit, Green Jobs bills. Your support can improve the public health outcomes and economic reality for the communities most affected by the negative impacts of fossil fuel emissions and long-term impact of the economic downturn.

For more information, contact Jobs to Move America at (347) 513-1228