

1 **2025 NYSAC Legislative Conference**  
2 **Standing Committee on Climate Action, Energy & Environment**  
3 **Resolution #4**

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5 **Resolution Supporting the Climate and Clean Energy Investments in the**  
6 **SFY 2026 Executive Budget and Urging Additional Resources for Local**  
7 **Climate Action**  
8

9 **WHEREAS**, the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA)  
10 established ambitious greenhouse gas reduction (GHG) and renewable energy targets  
11 that will require significant investment and coordination at all levels of government; and  
12

13 **WHEREAS**, the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2026 Executive Budget includes several major  
14 investments in advancing the CLCPA goals, including the New York Opportunity  
15 Promise Scholarship Program and Sustainable Future Program; and  
16

17 **WHEREAS**, the proposed New York Opportunity Promise Scholarship would provide  
18 funding for community college students ages 25-55 pursuing associate's degrees in high-  
19 demand fields, including green and renewable energy and other clean technology  
20 sectors; and  
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22 **WHEREAS**, supporting workforce development in clean energy fields is critical to  
23 achieving the State's climate goals while creating economic opportunities for New  
24 Yorkers; and  
25

26 **WHEREAS**, the Executive Budget includes \$1 billion for the new Sustainable Future  
27 Program to support climate mitigation and adaptation projects, including reducing  
28 greenhouse gas emissions, decarbonizing buildings, creating renewable energy  
29 infrastructure, and advancing clean transportation initiatives; and  
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31 **WHEREAS**, counties are on the frontlines of implementing climate solutions but often  
32 lack sufficient resources and technical assistance to fully support these efforts; and  
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34 **WHEREAS**, many low- and moderate-income (LMI) households are unable to  
35 participate in energy efficiency and electrification programs because they cannot afford  
36 necessary pre-weatherization improvements like roof repairs and mold remediation;  
37 and  
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39 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the New York State Association of  
40 Counties (NYSAC) supports the inclusion of green and renewable energy, advanced  
41 manufacturing, and other clean technology fields as eligible areas of study under the  
42 New York Opportunity Promise Scholarship program, and specifically recommends that  
43 Building Performance Institute certification courses and courses for certification to  
44 install zero-emissions building technologies be included in this program, among other  
45 green job fields; and

1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NYSAC urges the Governor and Legislature to  
2 dedicate a portion of the Sustainable Future Program funding specifically to support  
3 local government climate initiatives, including expanded funding for successful  
4 programs like Climate Smart Communities and Clean Energy Communities; enhanced  
5 technical assistance and training; support for regional sustainability coordinators and  
6 clean energy hubs; grants for geothermal district heating and cooling systems; and  
7 increased funding for programs that help municipalities divert organic waste from  
8 landfills and incinerators; and

9  
10 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NYSAC calls on the Governor and Legislature to  
11 provide funding for pre-weatherization improvements that are necessary before homes  
12 can receive energy efficiency upgrades and electrification through programs like  
13 EmPower+; and

14  
15 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NYSAC supports allocating state funding to  
16 replace any reduced federal incentives for residential heat pumps and other clean energy  
17 technologies for LMI households; and

18  
19 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, copies of this resolution be sent to the counties of  
20 New York State encouraging member counties to enact similar resolutions; and

21  
22 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NYSAC shall forward copies of this resolution to  
23 Governor Kathy Hochul, the New York State Legislature, the Public Service  
24 Commission, and all others deemed necessary and proper.