

1 **2023 NYSAC Fall Seminar**
2 **Standing Committee on Climate Action**
3 **Resolution #2**

4
5 **Resolution Urging NYSERDA to Expediently Implement and Promote the**
6 **Incentives and Rebates Created by the Inflation Reduction Act to Enhance**
7 **Energy Efficiency and Climate Mitigation in New York State**

8
9 **WHEREAS**, the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) passed by Congress and signed into law
10 on August 16, 2022, authorizes a historic \$370 billion federal investment to fight climate
11 change, including new tax incentives and rebates to help homeowners and renters make
12 cost-saving energy improvements to their homes and purchase energy-efficient heating
13 and hot water systems and appliances; and

14
15 **WHEREAS**, buildings account for the largest share of New York's greenhouse gas
16 emissions at 32 percent of total emissions, and the IRA's energy rebates and incentives
17 will greatly facilitate emissions reductions consistent with New York's Climate
18 Leadership and Community Protection Act at lower cost; and

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20 **WHEREAS**, according to the New York State Energy Research and Development
21 Authority (NYSERDA), New York has over five million single-family homes and among
22 the oldest building stock in the nation; and

23
24 **WHEREAS**, energy-efficiency improvements to homes and installation of modern,
25 energy-efficient appliances and systems improve comfort and air quality and reduce
26 energy use and costs, benefiting the health, quality of life, and well-being of residents;
27 and

28
29 **WHEREAS**, under the IRA, all residents are now eligible for a 30 percent tax credit for
30 home investments in rooftop solar, battery storage, energy-efficiency improvements to
31 the building envelope, energy-efficient heat pumps, and home electric-vehicle charging;
32 and

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34 **WHEREAS**, the IRA also authorizes a rebate program under which low- and
35 moderate-income households are to receive rebates for home energy-efficiency
36 improvements covering 80 percent of the costs up to \$8,000, depending on the level of
37 predicted energy savings, and all other households are eligible for rebates of 50 percent
38 of project costs up to \$4,000, depending on predicted energy savings; and

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40 **WHEREAS**, rebates of up to \$14,000 per household are also to be made available for
41 the purchase of energy-efficient electric systems and appliances, including heat pumps
42 for space and water heating, heat-pump clothes dryers, and induction stoves, as well as
43 for related electric wiring and load service upgrades, covering up to 100 percent of the
44 costs for low- and moderate-income households and up to 50 percent of the costs for
45 middle-income households earning up to 150 percent of Area Median Income; and
46

1 **WHEREAS**, these rebates can be stacked with IRA tax incentives, which further reduce
2 the upfront cost of these energy-saving investments for residents; and
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4 **WHEREAS**, New York State's share of residential energy rebate funds includes
5 approximately \$159.3 million for Home Efficiency rebates and \$158.4 million for Home
6 Electrification and Appliance rebates; and
7
8 **WHEREAS**, states are responsible for designing and administering rebate programs
9 with IRA funding.
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11 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the New York State Association of
12 Counties (NYSAC) supports the tax incentives and rebates authorized by the Inflation
13 Reduction Act to assist residents in making energy-saving and cost-saving
14 improvements to their homes that also reduce climate-damaging greenhouse gas
15 emissions; and
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17 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NYSAC urges NYSERDA to make IRA-funded
18 rebates available as soon as possible and no later than November 2023; and
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20 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NYSAC urges NYSERDA to ensure that IRA-
21 funded rebates not only benefit homeowners but also renters and manufactured home
22 residents; and
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24 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that rebates should be easily accessible and
25 convenient to obtain; and
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27 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NYSERDA should undertake a statewide
28 educational and marketing campaign to alert New Yorkers to the availability of tax
29 incentives and rebates through the IRA and to the importance of weatherizing homes
30 and tightening the building envelope prior to, or in conjunction with, the installation of
31 heat pumps in order to maximize cost and energy savings; and
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33 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, copies of this resolution be sent to the counties of
34 New York encouraging member counties to enact similar resolutions; and
35
36 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NYSAC shall forward copies of this resolution to
37 Governor Kathy Hochul, NYSERDA President and CEO Doreen Harris, New York State
38 Public Service Commission (PSC) Chair Rory Christian, New York State Department of
39 Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos, and all others
40 deemed necessary and proper.