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MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF THE
S.7176
**In Relation to establishing the “advanced building codes,
appliance and equipment efficiency standards act of 2021”**

April 2021

The Alliance for Clean Energy New York (ACE NY) supports S.7176 and urges its immediate passage. This bill would update the State Energy Code to allow the Code Council to determine Code exceptions and provide for the use of life-cycle cost analysis that includes climate warming emissions in the cost effectiveness consideration. The bill would also expand the list of appliance and products that need to meet energy and water efficiency standards, allow NYSERDA to set these efficiency standards, and the Department of State to enforce them.

The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) requires that the State reduce its electricity use by 185 trillion Btus by 2025, which is equivalent to powering 1.8 million homes. Buildings use over 60% of the energy consumed in the State and emit 30% of the State’s greenhouse gases (GHG)¹. This bill will reduce the energy used for heating and cooling new homes by increasing insulation and reducing air leakage through doors and windows. In addition, it will reduce residents’ heating, cooling, and electricity bills by an estimated \$2.5 billion. Also, an updated Energy Code will reduce GHG emissions by 21 million metric tons².

This bill includes appliance and products that should have updated efficiency standards, including televisions and computers. NYSERDA studied the cost-effectiveness of increasing standards for all of the appliances and products included in this bill³ finding the savings in energy and water use to the consumer are greater than the increase in purchase price for an updated product. Annual savings to consumers with improved appliance standards are \$1.3 billion, with \$500 million of that accrue in savings to low- and moderate-income households. For many of the products included, prices are not expected to increase, and on average, NYSERDA found that these upgraded appliances and products have a payback period of seven months.

For the above reasons, the Alliance for Clean Energy New York supports this legislation. For more information contact Deb Peck Kelleher, Director of Policy Analysis & Operations, at (c) 518-698-3211. All of ACE NY’s memos on legislation are available at <https://www.aceny.org/legislative-info>.

¹ <https://www.nyserdera.ny.gov/-/media/Files/EDPPP/Energy-Prices/Energy-Statistics/greenhouse-gas-inventory-fact-sheet.pdf>

² [Governor Cuomo Proposes Advanced Building Codes, Appliances and Equipment Efficiency Standards Act of 2021 to Reduce Carbon Emissions and Combat Climate Change - NYSERDA](#)

³ <https://www.nyserdera.ny.gov/-/media/Files/Publications/Energy-Analysis/Regulations-Establishing-Energy-Efficiency-Standards-Pursuant-to-Article-16-of-the-Energy-Law.pdf>