



Empire State Forest Products Association

The people behind New York's healthy forests and quality wood products

www.esfpa.org

47 Van Alstyne Drive / Rensselaer, New York 12144 / p: 518-463-1297 / f: 518-426-9502

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Memorandum of Support

A 7308-A/S 4065-C

Honorable Didi Barrett
Member of Assembly
724 LOB
Albany, NY 12247

Honorable Kevin Parker
Senator
504 Capital
Albany, NY 12248

Via Email - barrettd@nyassembly.gov

Via Email - parker@nysenate.gov

April 29, 2025

Dear Assemblymember Barrett and Senator Parker:

The Empire State Forest Products Association supports **A. 7308-A/S. 4065-C** which establishes a sustainable aviation fuel tax credit that will incentive the development of sustainable aviation fuels in New York and significantly reduce the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) contribution of aviation fuels.

The Empire State Forest Products Association (ESFPA) represents over 350 member businesses, industries and landowners engaged in forest resource production and stewardship of New York's 19 million acres of forest. In total, \$22.8 billion dollars in annual industry production and nearly 100,000 jobs are attributable to operations of various industries within the forest related sectors. There are over 200,000 private forest landowners who also depend on sound forest and timber management and production to help them keep their forests as forests.

To achieve the recently enacted Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act's targets, New York must rapidly decarbonize its transportation sector. This legislation would make significant benefits to produce aviation fuels in New York and to reduce GHG emissions in the aviation sector. For the foreseeable future aviation will still rely on aviation fuels as opposed to electrification. This legislation would incentive the replacement of fossil fuel-based aviation fuels with sustainable aviation fuels (SAF) generated from biomass feedstocks. Resulting in significantly less GHG emissions as well as co-pollutants in the aviation sector.

In addition to the climate benefits from the reduction of GhGs, there are significant economic benefits associated with the use of SAF. New York currently utilizes comparatively small amounts of low carbon fuels, and there is immense growth potential for their production and use in the state. Agricultural and forest residuals from crops, harvests, food, low grade forest

crops and wood process manufacturing generate biologic materials that can readily be converted and refined into SAF and generate local sources of fuels for our economy.

To meet its climate protection requirements, New York State must begin to decarbonize the transportation sector and using SAF can achieve this while supporting our agricultural and forest-based economy, localizing sources of fuel within New York, and helping to use our agricultural and forest landscape as a solution to climate change. New York forests represent 64% of our land cover and agriculture another 21% and combined are the single largest natural resource solution to climate change that New York has.

For these, and other reasons, ESFPA supports the passage of **A. 7308-A/S. 4065-C** and will work to have this legislation enacted and signed into law in 2025 so we can immediately start substantial GhG emission reductions.

For More Information Contact:

John K. Bartow, Jr.

Executive Director

Empire State Forest Products Association

47 VanAlstyne Drive

Rensselaer, NY 12144

Tel (518)463-1297

Cell (518) 573-1441

jbartow@esfpa.org

cc: Assembly Ways & Means Committee
Assembly Energy Committee
Senate Energy & Telecommunications Committee