



NYPIRG SUPPORTS

LEGISLATIVE MEMORANDUM NO: -07 CONTACT: Jason Babbie PHONE: (212) 349-6460

A.7438/ S. 4364

IN ASSEMBLY, BILL NUMBER 7438. INTRODUCED BY M. OF A. ROSENTHAL, ALESSI, ENGLEBRIGHT, PAULIN. MULTI-SPONSORS.

IN SENATE, BILL NUMBER 4364. INTRODUCED BY SENATORS MARCELLINO, DeFRANCISCO, FUSCHILLO, O. JOHNSON, LAVALLE, RATH, AND TRUNZO.

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law and the public service law, in relation to enacting the healthy, safe and energy efficient outdoor lighting act

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT:

Currently, a lack of standards for outdoor light is causing more pollution. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA), 30% of the United States' outdoor lighting is reflected skyward or wasted. An estimated 6 million tons of coal are burned annually due to excessive lighting's energy use. Coal burning power plants' pollution is a major cause of acid rain, ozone-smog, soot, mercury poisoning and global.

The legislature previously passed an outdoor lighting bill, but Governor Pataki vetoed the legislation. This bill addresses concerns expressed by Governor Pataki and other interested parties. For instance, this bill offers a more specific lighting efficiency formula and more flexibility before DEC or local officials issue penalties.

Using energy more efficiently will most certainly mean lower utility bills, saving ratepayers money. When a state or local governmental entity is the one improving lighting efficiency that means fewer tax dollars are being wasted on wasteful lighting.

This bill will improve the environment and public health, while saving New Yorkers money.

NYPIRG supports this legislation.