

Letter from Democratic State Senators to Governor Hochul

March 5, 2026, letter from a group of 29 NY state senators to Governor Hochul saying they “categorically oppose any effort to roll back New York’s nation leading climate law” and urging Hochul to “stand strong in the face of misinformation” re affordability

Perplexity AI [Query Response](#) 5 March 2026 at 3:00 PM

The letter itself is being shared as an image on social media, not as a clean standalone PDF or web page, so there is no single canonical “official” link I can reliably give you right now. However, you can view and download it from these posts, which show the full text on Senate letterhead:

X (Twitter) post summarizing and displaying the letter: search X for “A group of 29 state senators, led off by @LizKrueger, sent a letter to @GovKathyHochul this morning saying they ‘categorically oppose any effort to roll back New York’s nation leading climate law’” and open the March 5, 2026 post by Jack Arpey.

Facebook post that includes the same letter image and the quote about “stand strong in the face of misinformation that seeks to blame the CLCPA for the energy affordability crisis that fossil fuels have created”: search Facebook for the March 5, 2026 post by Jennifer Lewke (WHEC) with that wording.

Text of Letter

Re: Upholding New York’s Leadership in the Fight Against Climate Change

Dear Governor Hochul,

At a time when the Trump Administration is doing everything possible to tear down decades of progress in the fight against climate change, it is incumbent on states like New York to reject this new wave of climate denial and put forward bold policies that will save New Yorkers money, reduce pollution, and protect a livable climate for our constituents and our children and grandchildren.

That is why we, the undersigned senators, categorically oppose any effort to roll back New York’s nation-leading climate law, the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, and urge you to stand strong in the face of misinformation that seeks to blame the CLCPA for the energy affordability crisis that fossil fuels have created.

Climate change remains one of the greatest threats that our constituents - and societies across the globe - have ever faced. New Yorkers are already living through extreme weather events that run the gamut from searing heat waves to Arctic cold snaps, and they are already paying the price¹, with their dollars, their homes, their health, and even their lives. The climate crisis is driving up the cost of home

¹ <https://heatmap.news/economy/climate-costs-insurance>

insurance, of health care, of groceries, and of countless other daily necessities², and every delay in taking action will only drive those costs even higher. Confronting this crisis is a generational task and a legacy issue for every elected official, and it is inseparable from any credible effort to address the high cost of living.

At the same time, there is no question that we must address energy affordability, capacity, and reliability. But while President Trump and the fossil fuel industry want New Yorkers to believe that we must choose between those needs and climate action, nothing could be further from the truth. The recent three-page memo from NYSERDA purporting to show unacceptable costs of implementing CLCPA erroneously conflates CLCPA with a Cap & Invest program, treating them as one and the same when they are two entirely separate issues. Further, the memo is based on a specific Cap & Invest program design that has not been shared with the public and clearly does not include any price guardrails, with a completely unrealistic carbon price^{3,4}. As such, the analysis simply cannot be treated as a serious contribution to the debate.

In reality, rolling back the CLCPA will not save our constituents money because it is not the cause of increasing costs. It is the fossil fuel status quo^{5,6} that has created the affordability crisis New Yorkers are now suffering from, and it is bold action to deliver renewable energy and energy efficiency that will give them relief, saving money for individuals in the immediate-term and for all utility customers in the medium- and long-term⁷. When it comes to energy generation capacity, renewables can be deployed cheaply and quickly to meet our needs⁸. And over the last year, through heat waves and polar vortexes⁹, renewables have proven that they add much-needed reliability¹⁰ to the grid, reducing price spikes in the process, like those driven by wars in Europe and the Middle East.

Between us we carry significant legislation on a broad number of policies large and small that will reduce New Yorkers' costs and move us toward our science-based climate targets. We stand ready to work with you and your administration to implement comprehensive climate policies that truly meet the needs of this moment - but we cannot support abandoning our commitment to climate progress.

² <https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2026-01-14/a-stealth-heat-tax-has-already-cost-americans-l-trillion>

³ https://library.edf.org/AssetLink/3g135wt8ku2v8s04am84x625t8ftat_lj.pdf

⁴ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LZSA7_SS7C_Lvnb37KP83UvWnFsM1xps/view

⁵ <https://www.nyiso.com/documents/d/guest/costs-behind-rising-electricity-prices-whitepaper>

⁶ <https://nysfocus.com/2025/09/18/new-york-energy-bill-hikes>

⁷ <https://communitysolaraccess.org/news/new-study-finds-distributed-solar-and-storage-could-save-new-yorkers-nearly-1-billion-a-year-cut-energy-bills-statewide>

⁸ <https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/around-90-renewables-cheaper-than-fossil-fuels-worldwide-irena-says-2025-07-22/>

⁹ <https://www.newsday.com/opinion/commentary/guest-essays/olTshore-wind-electricity-needs-l88ft74>

¹⁰ <https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/Impact-Renewable-Energy>



March 5, 2026

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
NY State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

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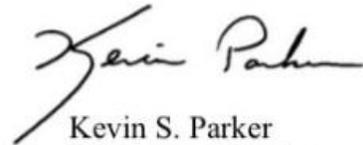
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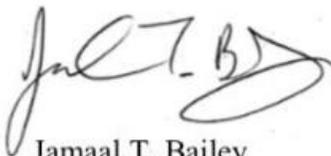
Liz Krueger
28th Senate District
Chair, Finance



Pete Harckham
40th Senate District
Chair, Environmental Conservation



Kevin S. Parker
21st Senate District
Chair, Energy & Telecoms



Jamaal T. Bailey
26th Senate District



April N.M. Baskin
63rd Senate District



Erik Bottcher
47th Senate District

³ <https://library.edf.org/AssetLink/3g135wt8ku2v8s04am84x625t8ftat1j.pdf>

⁴ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LZSA7_SS7C_Lvnb37KP83UvWnFsM1xps/view

⁵ <https://www.nyiso.com/documents/d/guest/costs-behind-rising-electricity-prices-whitepaper>

⁶ <https://nysfocus.com/2025/09/18/new-york-energy-bill-hikes>

⁷ <https://communitysolaraccess.org/news/new-study-finds-distributed-solar-and-storage-could-save-new-yorkers-nearly-1-billion-a-year-cut-energy-bills-statewide>

⁸ <https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/around-90-renewables-cheaper-than-fossil-fuels-worldwide-irena-says-2025-07-22/>

⁹ <https://www.newsday.com/opinion/commentary/guest-essays/offshore-wind-electricity-needs-188fpt74>

¹⁰ <https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/Impact-Renewable-Energy>

Jabari Brisport
25th Senate District

Samra Brouk
55th Senate District

Cordell Cleare
30th Senate District

Leroy Comrie
14th Senate District

Nathalia Fernandez
34th Senate District

Kristen Gonzalez
59th Senate District

Andrew Gounardes
26th Senate District

Michelle Hinchey
41st Senate District

Robert Jackson
31st Senate District

Brian Kavanagh
27th Senate District

John Liu
16th Senate District

Rachel May
48th Senate District

Shelley B. Mayer
37th Senate District

Zellnor Myrie
20th Senate District

Roxanne J. Persaud
19th Senate District

Jessica Ramos
13th Senate District

Gustavo Rivera
33rd Senate District

Julia Salazar
18th Senate District

James Sanders
10th Senate District

Luis Sepulveda
32nd Senate District

José M. Serrano
29th Senate District

Toby Ann Stavisky

Toby Ann Stavisky
11th Senate District

Lea Webb

Lea Webb
52nd Senate District