Title: An act to amend the public service law, in relation to the state's electric system energy efficiency framework – New York Electric Efficiency Jobs Act.

Purpose: To incentivize and improve cost-effective energy efficiency investment in New York State.

Statement of Support:
New York State has been a national leader on climate and clean energy policy, but a significant ramp-up in energy efficiency is still needed to meet the state’s goals. More energy efficiency could save customers an estimated $3 billion by 2030, create thousands of jobs, and improve public health.

This legislation works to provide a framework in which energy efficiency initiatives have a quantitative goal that advance savings across all fuels, including both electricity-reducing measures and efficiency electric heating and cooling technologies that reduce the state’s dependence on fuel oil and natural gas.

While the overarching efficiency goals will be met by a variety of program components, the most important is an ambitious mandate for utilities, which have the ability to procure efficiency quickly and at scale. The bill would work to incentivize and reward utilities for meeting ambitious mandates that gradually ramp up from current levels of roughly 0.9 percent per year, to a minimum level of 3 percent per year, as is being achieved in leading states.

Utilities can directly engage customers with clean and efficient energy opportunities including energy efficiency and electric clean heating and cooling. Similar to the 50 by 2030 renewables target of the Clean Energy Standard, this type of mandate is essential to provide the critical and predictable policy framework that will encourage greater long-term private sector investment in energy efficiency. This bill will also work to make comparable savings levels facilitated/delivered by both NYPA and LIPA.

The energy efficiency initiatives in New York should be designed to harness the efficiency market and grow additional opportunities for energy efficiency businesses in New York that currently employ 110,000 New Yorkers. With legislation such as S.6771-A/A.9841, New York will be closer to achieving these goals.

Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter Urges Your Support Of S.6771-A/A.9841