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Assemblyman 81st District
Bronx County

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

October 25, 2023

Dear Governor Hochul,

We write today to express our appreciation for your continued commitment to the concerns of working people and the climate crisis' impact on many communities. We respectfully request your consideration to include the Green Transit, Green Jobs bill in the 2024-2025 Executive Budget and direct \$100 million to non-MTA transit agencies to ease the transition for smaller transit agencies; ensure their unionized workforce receive needed training; and shape this manufacturing sector with their collective purchasing power.

The Green Transit, Green Jobs bill (A.6414/S.6089) would require transit agencies to phase in zero emissions buses beginning in 2029 as their buses age out, and fully electric by 2035, while creating community sustaining jobs through the contracting process. Transit buses are among the vehicle classes most primed for electrification now and have a proven track record in a variety of climates and terrains with the potential for good job creation.

The bill can help NY State meet the emission goals set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) through a planned transition with a roadmap and guideline developed by NYSERDA and DOT. Since emissions from today's existing transit bus fleet impact riders, drivers, workers, and the communities that live near transit bus depots, transit agencies can reduce emissions through firm deadlines around the transition to zero-emission buses while protecting communities from the harmful impacts of vehicle pollution, as recommended in the state's Climate Scoping Plan.

We also support the bill's strong labor provisions that create safeguards for impacted workers and encourage good manufacturing jobs through the US Jobs Plan (USJP). The USJP incentivizes bidders to "compete up" by earning extra credit for good wages, benefits, as well as NY job creation through in-state facility commitments. New York State can lead the way by changing how it purchases and contracts high dollar value items - starting with public transit. NY State can transition to a green economy, while centering high road jobs through the power of government procurement.

Moreover, with the concern about job loss to impacted workers at transit agencies, the bill requires a Workforce Development Report in order to ensure unionized transit agency workers provide input and are adequately notified about jobs lost and created, re-training, or skills improvement opportunities.

As supporters of this bill, we encourage you to include the Green Transit, Green Jobs bill in the Executive Budget. We would welcome the opportunity to work with your office so NY State can address some of our most urgent climate concerns and the economic impact on vulnerable communities. Please do not hesitate to contact our offices if we can be of any assistance in furthering this important goal.

Sincerely,



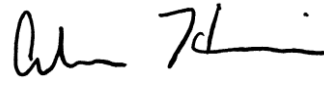
Jeffrey Dinowitz
81st Assembly District



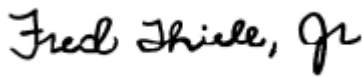
Phil Steck
110th Assembly District



Amy Paulin
88th Assembly District



Andrew Hevesi
28th Assembly District



Fred W. Thiele, Jr.
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Rebecca A. Seawright
76th Assembly District



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Dr. Anna R. Kelles
125th Assembly District



Linda B. Rosenthal
67th Assembly District



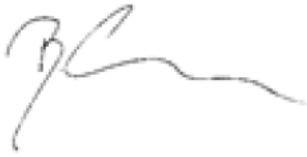
David I. Weprin
24th Assembly District



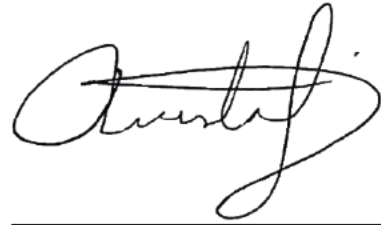
Jessica González-Rojas
34th Assembly District



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CC:

