

1 **2022 NYSAC Fall Seminar**
2 **NYSAC Board of Directors**
3 **Resolution #2**

4
5 **Resolution to Support the Clean Water, Clean Air, Green Jobs**
6 **Environmental Bond Act of 2022**

7
8 **WHEREAS**, providing clean drinking water and protecting our rivers, bays, lakes,
9 streams, and waterfronts from pollution is paramount to quality of life in New York
10 State; and

11
12 **WHEREAS**, modernizing water infrastructure will safeguard clean water, reduce
13 flooding, lessen lead exposure and other public health threats, and create jobs; and

14
15 **WHEREAS**, New Yorkers are vulnerable to extreme weather, including deadly heat
16 from rising temperatures and flooding from severe storms that put people, properties,
17 and public assets at risk; and

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19 **WHEREAS**, upgrading transportation and stormwater infrastructure, restoring
20 natural resources, growing urban forests, building green roofs, and upgrading cooling
21 centers will reduce the impact of extreme weather, saving lives and money; and

22
23 **WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the importance of outdoor
24 recreation and access to fresh, local food as people flocked to local parks and sought out
25 healthy foods for their families; and

26
27 **WHEREAS**, upgrades to facilities at state and local parks and preserves and the
28 creation of new outdoor recreational areas will benefit our state by protecting wildlife
29 habitats, providing more people access to nature, and creating jobs in the outdoor
30 recreation economy; and

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32 **WHEREAS**, the Clean Water, Clean Air, and Green Jobs Bond Act (“Bond Act”) would
33 authorize New York State to issue \$4.2 billion in general obligation bonds to finance
34 critical environmental restoration, clean water, and infrastructure projects across the
35 state; and

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37 **WHEREAS**, the Bond Act was passed by the New York State Legislature as part of the
38 FY 2023 State Budget and will appear on the general election ballot on November 8,
39 2022 for voter approval; and

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41 **WHEREAS**, the Bond Act would invest at least \$1.1 billion in restoring habitats and
42 reducing flood risk, at least \$650 million in improving water quality and the resiliency
43 of infrastructure, up to \$650 million in protecting open space and recreational
44 infrastructure, and up to \$1.5 billion in mitigating climate change; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the Bond Act includes strong labor provisions and will support more than
2 84,000 family-sustaining jobs for New Yorkers and \$8.7 billion in project spending; and

3
4 **WHEREAS**, the Bond Act would enable New York State to address pollution and
5 public health threats in disadvantaged communities by directing at least 35% of the total
6 funding to these neighborhoods, with a goal of reaching 40%; and

7
8 **WHEREAS**, counties are already leading efforts to combat climate change through
9 initiatives that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, advance the state’s transition to
10 renewable energy, and build more resiliency into our natural and built infrastructures;
11 and

12
13 **WHEREAS**, the Bond Act will allow local governments to apply for grants to carry out
14 projects that will serve the unique needs of their communities and support New York
15 State in achieving the Climate Act’s goals of reducing economy-wide greenhouse gas
16 emissions by 40% by 2030 and 85% by 2050.

17
18 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the New York State Association of
19 Counties (NYSAC) supports the passage of the Clean Water, Clean Air, Green Jobs
20 Environmental Bond Act of 2022 to enable historic investments in protecting the
21 environment, mitigating climate change, and advancing environmental justice; and

22
23 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be sent to the counties
24 of New York State encouraging member counties to enact similar resolutions; and

25
26 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, NYSAC shall forward copies of this resolution to the
27 Governor of the State of New York, the New York State Legislature, and all others
28 deemed necessary and proper.