



Affordable, Climate-Ready Homes Act

For safer homes, cleaner energy, and lower bills

Introduction

As the climate crisis intensifies, New Yorkers pay more for home heating and cooling due to rising utility bills and worsening heat waves and storms. Our homes and neighborhoods are polluted by toxic fumes and greenhouse gases, destroying our health and our planet. By making home energy and weather safety improvements free to working- and middle-class New Yorkers in our houses, apartments, and small businesses, the **Affordable, Climate-Ready Homes Act** will make the places we live and work safer, cleaner, and more affordable, protecting our families and our futures.

The Problem

Right now, the few state services that help working- and middle-class New Yorkers weather the climate crisis in their homes are difficult to navigate. Things like utility bill savings programs, funding for home energy upgrades like heat pumps, and weatherization improvements are lacking, hard to access, and underutilized. And not all of the state's existing programs are free to the families most affected by high energy bills, polluted homes and neighborhoods, and extreme storms and heat, which are disproportionately Black, brown, and low-income after decades of corporate greed and divestment in public goods.

Nearly half of New York's roughly 8 million households are low to moderate-income. And New York's 6 million buildings are responsible for around one-third of statewide greenhouse gas emissions. Though New York's landmark Climate Act mandates that overburdened communities receive 40 percent of state climate investment, we need a program to start upgrading and improving New Yorkers' homes and small businesses for free, installing clean heating and cooling systems, weatherizing buildings, and more. New York must protect our families from the burdens of extreme weather and toxic pollution at no cost.

The Solution

The Affordable, Climate-Ready Homes Act would ensure that nearly half of New York households can access free home heating, cooling, and weatherization upgrades for their houses, apartments, and small businesses. By making it easier to access existing programs and mandating that the state kickstart home improvements for households, the Act will improve the health of our families, reduce toxic pollution in our homes, lower greenhouse gas

emissions, and help New Yorkers weather the intertwined climate and cost-of-living crises driven by corporate greed and fossil fuel profits.

For Policymakers

To learn more about the details of the Affordable, Climate-Ready Homes Act, please refer to the policy memo linked [here](#).