

**A06279 Summary:**

BILL NO A06279

SAME AS SAME AS

SPONSOR Englebright

COSPNSR Gottfried, Santabarbara, Harris, Ortiz, Dinowitz, Kearns, Colton, Lifton, Glick, Fahy, Titone, Abinanti, Otis, Jean-Pierre, Lavine, Mosley, Simon, Galef, Jaffee, Cook, Rivera, D'Urso, Hunter, Hooper, Steck, Peoples-Stokes, Sepulveda, Skoufis, Williams, Bichotte

MLTSPNSR Thiele

Add Art 1 §19, Constn

Relates to the right to clean air and water and a healthful environment.

**A06279 Actions:**

BILL NO A06279

03/01/2017 referred to environmental conservation  
03/02/2017 to attorney-general for opinion  
03/07/2017 reported referred to judiciary  
03/23/2017 opinion referred to judiciary  
04/24/2017 reported referred to rules  
04/24/2017 reported  
04/24/2017 rules report cal.62  
04/24/2017 ordered to third reading rules cal.62  
04/24/2017 passed assembly  
04/24/2017 delivered to senate  
04/24/2017 REFERRED TO JUDICIARY

**A06279 Memo:**

NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY  
MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION  
submitted in accordance with Assembly Rule III, Sec 1(f)

**BILL NUMBER:** A6279

Revised 04/24/17

**SPONSOR:** Englebright

**TITLE OF BILL:**

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY proposing an amendment to article 1 of the constitution, in relation to the right to clean air and water and a healthful environment

**PURPOSE OR GENERAL IDEA OF BILL:**

To protect public health and the environment by ensuring clean air and water.

**SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:**

Amends the State Constitution's bill of rights to include a right to clean air and water and a healthful environment.

**JUSTIFICATION:**

Recent water contamination and ongoing concerns about air quality have highlighted the importance of clean drinking water and air as well as the need for additional protections. Several other states including Pennsylvania, Hawaii, Massachusetts and Montana have constitutional protections in place to ensure access to clean air and water. This proposed constitutional amendment would follow those models and ensure that clean air and water are treated as fundamental rights for New Yorkers and to protect the overall health of the people and the environment.

**PRIOR LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:**

This is new legislation.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:**

None

**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

Resolved, That the foregoing amendments be referred to the first regular legislative session convening after the next succeeding general election of members to the assembly, and in, conformity with section 1 of article 19 of the constitution, be published for 3 months previous to the time of such election.

**A06279 Text:**

**STATE OF NEW YORK**

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6279

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

**IN ASSEMBLY**

March 1, 2017

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Introduced by M. of A. ENGLEBRIGHT, GOTTFRIED -- read once and referred to the Committee on Environmental Conservation

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY

proposing an amendment to article 1 of the constitution, in relation to the right to clean air and water and a healthful environment

1 Section 1. Resolved (if the Senate concur), That article 1 of the  
2 constitution be amended by adding a new section 19 to read as follows:

3 § 19. Environmental rights. Each person shall have a right to clean  
4 air and water, and a healthful environment.

5 § 2. Resolved (if the Senate concur), That the foregoing amendment be  
6 referred to the first regular legislative session convening after the  
7 next succeeding general election of members of the assembly, and, in  
8 conformity with section 1 of article 19 of the constitution, be  
9 published for 3 months previous to the time of such election.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD89102-01-7