



CCE BUDGET PRIORITIES FOR SFY 2022-23

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FUND (\$400 MILLION): Since 1993, the EPF has invested in projects to protect and restore our land, air, and water resources in every region of the state. The EPF supports 350,000 jobs across the state, and EPF-supported industries generate approximately \$40 billion in economic activity every year. Within a \$400 million EPF, CCE supports increases to key line items:

- **OCEAN AND GREAT LAKES LINE (\$25 MILLION):** This is the state's primary source of funding for scientific research, management planning, and restoration projects to improve the health of our Great Lakes and Ocean resources.
- **SOUTH SHORE ESTUARY RESERVE PROGRAM (\$5MILLION):** The SSER program updated its Comprehensive Management Plan in 2021 and additional funding is needed to accomplish new priorities and goals aimed at protecting and restoring this critical natural resource.

CLEAN WATER INFRASTRUCTURE ACT (\$1 BILLION): To date, this successful program has invested over \$4 billion to upgrade clean water infrastructure—creating 17 local jobs for every \$1 million invested. However, we have a long way to go to meet New York's \$80 billion clean water infrastructure needs. To meet the massive clean water infrastructure needs across the state, create jobs, and to leverage additional federal dollars coming from the recently passed bipartisan infrastructure bill, we urge the legislature to work with the Governor to increase funding for the CWIA to \$1 billion in the final SFY 2022-23 budget.

SUPPORT THE CLEAN WATER, CLEAN AIR, & GREEN JOBS BOND ACT (\$4 BILLION) An environmental bond act will provide much-needed funding to make communities across the state more resilient to climate change, protect and restore water resources, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, expand clean energy and energy efficiency, and support job creation and sustainable economic development.

HOLD CORPORATE MANUFACTURERS—NOT TAXPAYERS—RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR WASTE. ENACT EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY (EPR) FOR PACKAGING AND PAPER (PART RR OF (S.8008/A.9008) BUDGET): EPR would require producers—not taxpayers—to bear the cost of proper recycling packaging and printed paper and help address the state's solid waste crisis. We are grateful that the Governor proposed an EPR policy in the executive budget proposal, and we look forward to working with legislature to adopt a policy in the final budget that provides maximum environmental benefit and effectively holds brand-owners responsible for achieving strong goals for post-consumer content, waste reduction, increased recyclability, and packaging reuse. CCE supports a complimentary policy to prohibit toxic chemicals in product packaging (**Part SS of (S.8008/A.9008) BUDGET**).

PROTECT WETLANDS (PART QQ OF (S.8008/A.9008) BUDGET) : Legislation proposed in the executive budget would remove the jurisdictional barriers of wetland maps, allow DEC to immediately protect and regulate wetlands 12.4 acres or larger if they meet the basic scientific definition of these critical habitat areas, and expand DEC's authority over smaller wetlands of unusual importance. *CCE urges the legislature to include this fix to New York's wetlands program in the final budget in order to protect water quality, address growing and unsustainable development pressures, increase climate resiliency, and reduce flooding throughout the state, and protect over 1 million additional acres of freshwater wetlands across the state.*

