



# *Monroe County Legislature*

**STEVE BREW**  
MAJORITY LEADER  
LEGISLATOR - DISTRICT 12

December 7, 2022

Monroe County Legislature  
406 Monroe County Office Building  
39 West Main Street  
Rochester, NY 14614

|                                                                                |        |
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| OFFICIAL FILE COPY                                                             |        |
| No.                                                                            | 220442 |
| Not to be removed from the<br>Office of the<br>Legislature Of<br>Monroe County |        |
| Committee Assignment                                                           |        |
| Memorializing Referral                                                         | -L     |

**Re: Memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to Veto A.6652/S.4162 "An Act to Amend the Environmental Conservation Law, in Relation to the Protection of Certain Streams"**

Honorable Legislators:

New York State Water and Soil Conservation Districts work diligently across the region to conserve and protect our water quality, wildlife habitat, fisheries, and infrastructure. Their leadership and success do not go unnoticed, and they have a well-earned reputation throughout the State. They are committed to working closely with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and other local and county agencies to maintain and protect streams.

Assembly Bill A.6652/Senate Bill S.4162 has been passed in the New York State Legislature which will permit the DEC to add Class C streams to the Protection of Waters Regulatory Program where it now awaits the Governor's approval. If this legislation is enacted, it will force the reclassification of thousands of New York State streams. This reclassification and overregulation will result in more time-consuming, costly, and impractical state interferences with not only New York State Water and Soil Conservation districts but also taxpayers whom have streams on their properties.

The bill hinders farmers' abilities to quickly clear waterways and local roads after periodic flooding in New York State regions. Instead, months could pass before permits are approved to remove obstructions and clear waterways. Right now, these issues are dealt with swiftly and efficiently utilizing our local County Soil and Water Conservation Districts. To unnecessarily overregulate an efficient existing system would be a detriment to our farmers and wildlife throughout the region. For these reasons, I ask that you join me in urging Governor Hochul to veto A.6652/S.4162.

Sincerely,

Steve Brew  
Monroe County Legislature  
Majority Leader