



ENVIRONMENTAL  
ADVOCATES OF NEW YORK

# SUPPORTS



Key to Legislative Ratings:

🌳🌳🌳 Major Benefit

🌳🌳 Substantial Benefit

🌳 Beneficial

## **S.2763 (THOMPSON) A.7413 (GALEF, ET AL.)**

### **Summary**

This legislation would provide a green roof installation tax credit of up to 55 percent of the cost of qualified installation expenditures on residential property, not exceeding \$5,000. The measure would require the Commissioner of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to set standards for the plant material used in green roof construction and require the inspection of green roof installations against these standards.

### **Explanation**

Green roof technology provides many environmental benefits. Green roofs can help reduce building cooling needs, thus saving electricity and preventing air pollution. Green roofs help cool air temperatures and provide a check against urban heat island effect, which occurs when hard surfaces, such as asphalt and concrete, radiate the sun's energy and keep dense urban areas several degrees warmer than surrounding areas. Cooler air temperatures can have important health benefits for those urban residents who are most vulnerable to extreme heat, especially children and the elderly. Green roof technology can also reduce the amount of runoff into sewer systems.

Due to all these environmental and energy-saving benefits, increased installations of green roofs will benefit all New Yorkers. However, the cost of such projects often prevents residential building owners from exploring such improvements. By creating a green roof tax credit, this bill would provide a strong financial incentive to encourage more New Yorkers to consider installing this beneficial infrastructure.

**Memo 20**

**Environmental Advocates of New York supports this bill.**