



The New York Deforestation-Free Procurement Act

The [New York Deforestation-Free Procurement Act](#), S.5921/A.6872 (Krueger/Zebrowski), if passed into law, will ensure that state and local government procurement does not drive tropical or boreal deforestation or forest degradation or associated abuses of the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in these forested regions.

What does the bill do?

The NY bill will (1) tighten an existing state ban on the use of tropical hardwoods for government projects and (2) create a new statute requiring state contractors who deal in forest-risk commodities to certify that their products don't drive tropical or boreal deforestation or degradation. Key forest-risk commodities covered by the law include soy, beef, palm oil, coffee, and wood products.

Why does this matter?

By ensuring that the products New York State buys do not contribute to the destruction of Earth's most vital ecosystems, NY procurement can help save global forests. In turn, global forests can save New Yorkers – and the rest of humanity. Tropical and boreal forests are essential to stabilizing our climate and serve as Earth's immune system, safeguarding against the emergence of pandemic diseases. They remove and store vast amounts of atmospheric carbon. Tropical and boreal forests are among the most carbon-dense biomes on earth. Keeping them standing is essential to countering the climate crisis, which is crucial to save NY from superstorms, floods, heatwaves, and more. These forests are also home to Indigenous Peoples and countless species at risk of extinction.

Why target forest-risk commodities?

The largest direct cause of tropical deforestation is the expanding production of industrial-scale agricultural commodities including palm oil, soy, beef and leather, paper, and rubber. Deforestation in the tropics commonly occurs through a pattern of roads constructed for logging followed by deforestation for agriculture in the newly opened areas. The primary factor leading to boreal intact forest degradation is industrial logging to make products such as single-use tissue products, newsprint, and lumber. Together, these products are known as "forest-risk commodities." The [U.S. is an important market](#) for imported commodities and associated products linked to deforestation and degradation, such as palm oil from South East Asia and leather from Latin American cattle, which drives Amazon destruction and Indigenous rights violations. New Yorkers should not be the unwitting financiers of environmental crime and forest destruction and human rights abuses.

Impact on transparency

By creating a statute to require state contractors to certify that they are not contributing to tropical or boreal intact forest degradation or deforestation directly or through their supply chains, the Deforestation-Free Procurement Act will boost growing supply-chain transparency and sustainability efforts in the affected industries and close loopholes in existing statutes that limit the purchase of tropical hardwoods by the state and local governments.

This bill is part of a global trend

By passing this bill, New York State would join a movement to tackle the root causes of forest destruction.

Other jurisdictions moving towards deforestation-free procurement legislation



Who supports the New York Deforestation-Free Procurement Act?

Environmental organizations

- ▶ Friends of the Earth U.S.
 - ▶ Environmental Defense Fund
 - ▶ Environmental Advocates NY
 - ▶ Environmental Investigation Agency
 - ▶ Environment America
 - ▶ Greenpeace USA
 - ▶ National Wildlife Federation
 - ▶ New York League of Conservation Voters
 - ▶ NYPIRG
 - ▶ NRDC
 - ▶ Rainforest Action Network
 - ▶ Rainforest Relief
 - ▶ Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter
 - ▶ The Nature Conservancy
 - ▶ **Canadian organizations including:**
 - Action Boreale
 - David Suzuki Foundation
 - Nature Quebec
 - Stand.Earth
 - Environmental Defense
 - Nature Canada
 - Canopy
 - Wilderness Committee
 - Greenpeace Canada
- ▶ Daughters of Charity, Province on St. Louise
 - ▶ Dominican Sisters of Sparkill
 - ▶ Domini Impact Investments
 - ▶ Everence and the Praxis Mutual Funds
 - ▶ Figure 8 Investment Strategies
 - ▶ Friends Fiduciary Corporation
 - ▶ Green Century Capital Management
 - ▶ Harkins Wealth Management
 - ▶ Impax Asset Management LLC
 - ▶ Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility
 - ▶ Investor Advocates for Social Justice
 - ▶ KLP Kapitalforvaltning AS
 - ▶ Legal and General Investment Management
 - ▶ Maryknoll Sisters
 - ▶ Mercy Investment Services
 - ▶ Miller/Howard Investments, Inc.
 - ▶ Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate JPIC
 - ▶ Missionary Oblates/OIP Trust
 - ▶ Natural Investments
 - ▶ NorthStar Asset Management, Inc.
 - ▶ Oxfam America
 - ▶ Seventh Generation Interfaith, Inc.
 - ▶ SharePower Responsible Investing
 - ▶ Sisters of St. Dominic of Blauvelt, NY
 - ▶ Sjunde AP-fonden (AP7)
 - ▶ Skye Advisors LLC
 - ▶ SRI Investing LLC
 - ▶ The Sustainability Group of Loring, Wolcott & Coolidge
 - ▶ Trillium Asset Management
 - ▶ Vert Asset Management
 - ▶ Zevin Asset Management

Investors and financial firms

- ▶ Domini Impact Investments
- ▶ Seventh Generation Interfaith
- ▶ Adasina Social Capital
- ▶ AJF Financial Services Inc.
- ▶ As You Sow
- ▶ Boston Common Asset Management
- ▶ Christian Brothers Investment Services
- ▶ Congregation of St. Joseph