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**THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS**
of New York State

**MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF:
A.7389-B (Kelles)/S.6486-C (Parker)**

TO: Members of the New York State Assembly
Members of or New York State Senate

DATE: February 4, 2022

Subject: Establishes a moratorium on consolidated operations that use proof-of-work authentication methods to validate blockchain transactions; provides that such operations shall be subject to a full generic environmental impact statement review.

The League of Women Voters of New York State strongly supports A.7389B/S.6486C.

For decades the League of Women Voters has held positions urging vigilance in protecting air and water quality. “The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that natural resources should be managed as interrelated parts of life-supporting ecosystems. Resources should be conserved and protected to assure their future availability. Pollution of these resources should be controlled in order to preserve the physical, chemical and biological integrity of ecosystems and to protect public health.”

The increasing interest in cryptocurrency is exponential. However, all forms of cryptocurrency mining are not alike with respect to impact upon the community where plants are located. Those that use Proof of Work authentication method to validate blockchain transactions present potentially serious adverse environmental consequences including significant use of electrical energy that is instead needed to power New York State's electrification goals under the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, generation of substantial amounts of greenhouse gas emissions from production and use of natural gas, use of great volumes of water which is returned to its original source (such as Seneca Lake) much hotter and thereby affecting fishing, agriculture and the wine industry, frequent replacement of supercomputers generating significant amounts of e-waste, and noise from fans running 24/7 that affects neighbors' quality of life and health. The whole process makes questionable achievement of the goals of the 2019 Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

**The League of Women Voters of New York State strongly urges your support of
A.7389-B/S.6486-C.**