4/13/2022 Legislative Sub Team Meeting Notes; Attendees: Steve Miller, Sylvia Kay, Hap Haven, Pat Miller  
These (draft) notes prepared by Steve Miller

Asm. Kennedy is available:

Tuesday May 3rd 10:30am (Zoom)

Monday May 9th 12pm (Statehouse)

Wednesday May 18th 11am (Zoom

The team chose Wed May 18, 11AM (via Zoom). Steve will reserve that date and ask what information Asm. Kennedy needs in advance.

The combined Legislative and Admin sub teams will meet on April 28, 7PM. We will add this Kennedy meeting to the agenda..

The group discussed preparing ASM. Kennedy by sending the meeting agenda in advance. We also discussed the possibility we would have a better meeting, if the meeting was more spontaneous.

The meeting will have two parts:

1. Our recommended specific language changes to A1440
2. More general discussion of possibilities. Example: discuss a possible suite of bills. We could propose NY as a model, starting with the NY “[Climate Act”](https://climate.ny.gov/) of 2019, which established a 22 person “Council”, with firm requirements to issue a “Scoping Plan” by 1/1/2022 for review by all, and a firm date of 1/1/2023 to finalize the scope of the climate plan. [The “Renewable Heat Now” Coalition](https://climate.smiller.org/BE/NY-Climate-Act/RHN-legislative-package_final.pdf) of 200+ NY environmental organizations is supporting 4 NY State bills on related topics.

SPECIFIC TOPICS:

1.Clarify definitions esp ”Zero Energy Ready Building”: Currently, builders are taking many different short cuts /ways around “zero energy ready”.

* We expect it will take a while to get definitions worked-out, both before bill is signed, and then after- as the various NJ organizations fine tune, operationally.
* We expect that with time, the NEEP/BPU work will fine tune the “NJ Zero Energy Roadmap” for building codes. We believe that A1440 will benefit from that work.
* In particular, the roadmap shows the possibility of a 2 step program: by 2024-2025, NJ will offer benefits, and builders will get discount, if gas connection is not offered. Then using the 2027 code, “Zero Energy” requirements are in place in NJ in 2028.

2.This bill focuses on new construction; we suggest being more specific and explicitly address existing buildings (Section 7 “Section 5 of P.L.1975, c.217…” is not clear)

3.“Commissioner” was defined once, but reused many times, and the original connection (Commissioner o fthe Dept of Community Affairs) fades.

4.The public-facing web site will significantly affect success of this program. We suggest looking at successful principles adopted by the Maine web site

GENERAL COMMENTS:

1 Look at related California laws. Those have been refined over 2 decades!

NEXT STEP: Sylvia Kay is a member of the Sierra Club NJ Chapter “Legislative Team”, and will let them know our plans. (The Legislature sub team is open to any Sierra Club’s knowledge on Asm. Kennedy that might help us plan best approach.)

Hap Haven suggested we invite people to the April 22-23 NJ Institute of Architects weekend (2 day) “East Coast Green Conference” $100/day non-member fee. East Coast Green registration: https://conx.is/ecg22