



S U P P O R T

LEGISLATIVE MEMORANDUM

TO: Assembly Committee on Tourism, Parks, Arts and Sports Development

FROM: Joshua Terry, Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA)

DATE: May 12, 2025

RE: CSEA Support for A. 6634 (Kim)

What the bill does: This legislation requires the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation (OPRHP) to develop and implement operational safety plans prior to deploying staff in hazardous conditions.

Why it matters: Employees at OPRHP are often assigned to emergency response teams during severe weather events and natural disasters, including wildfires. Many of these operations involve dangerous tasks, such as tree removal, without adequate hazard assessments, training verification, or clear emergency protocols.

Key provisions: Requires OPRHP to develop and approve operational safety plans prior to the deployment of any employee in hazardous conditions. Such plans must include:

- Risk assessment and mitigation.
- Clearly delineated roles, responsibilities, and chain-of-command.
- Evacuation procedures.
- A review to ensure that all staff are properly trained for the deployment.

The bottom line: This bill improves workplace safety for OPRHP employees by ensuring that no worker is sent into hazardous situations without a clear, comprehensive operational safety plan in place.

The Civil Service Employees Association strongly supports its passage.

For additional information, contact:

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