



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Joseph P. Addabbo Jr.

Addabbo Co-Sponsored Bill to Impose a Noise Tax on Non-Essential Helicopter and Seaplane Flights Approved By Senate

JOSEPH P. ADDABBO JR. June 10, 2024

Queens, NY (June 4, 2024): Senator Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr., co-sponsor of legislation (S.7216-C) to impose a noise tax on non-essential helicopter and seaplane flights in New York City, announced its approval by the NYS Senate on June 3, 2024.

“In recent years, constituent complaints over the ever-growing noise pollution caused by helicopters and seaplanes have been received by my offices,” said Addabbo. “High-decibel noise and vibrations from these aircraft during their takeoffs and landings hundreds of times a week disrupt the daily lives of many New Yorkers, including schools and businesses. Not to mention disrupted sleep patterns caused by the noise negatively impact an individual's health. I am pleased to support this legislation as a positive step taken by the Senate towards addressing my constituent's concerns,” Addabbo added.

Outlined in the bill, the tax on noise from nonessential seaplane and helicopter flights would amount to \$50 per ticketed passenger or \$200 per flight, whichever is greater. Tax exemptions for electric-powered helicopters and seaplanes that meet certain decibel thresholds are included. Helicopter and seaplane operators would file quarterly with the Department of Taxation and Finance, with their tax filings and reports remaining confidential except under certain legal or judicial circumstances. Any revenue collected

under this new article would be deposited into the Environmental Protection Fund

“These types of noise disturbances have been found to have significant health impacts including high blood pressure, muscle tension, sleep disturbances, and stress-related conditions such as ulcers. Imposing a noise tax could reduce the number of daily non-essential flights while helping alleviate the negative impact on residents and businesses,” concluded Addabbo.

After passing the Senate, the bill is sent to the Assembly Ways and Means Committee for consideration.