



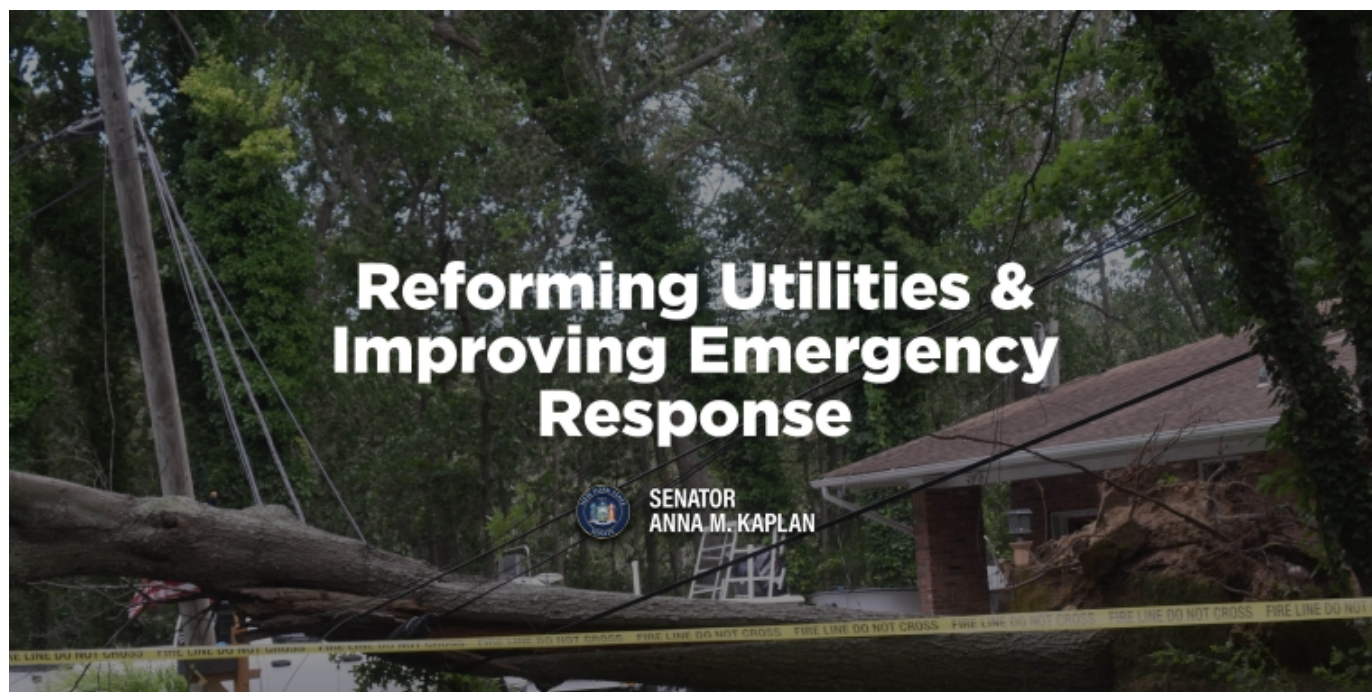
NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Anna M. Kaplan

## Bill Prioritizing Power Restoration for Medically Vulnerable Individuals Passes New York State Senate

SENATOR ANNA M. KAPLAN March 28, 2022

| ISSUE: **UTILITY REFORM, PSEG LONG ISLAND, POWER OUTAGES, TROPICAL STORM ISAIAS, PROTECTING VULNERABLE NEW YORKERS**



**Click here to download video of Senator Kaplan delivering remarks on the bill from the floor of the New York State Senate**

**CARLE PLACE, NY (March 28, 2022)** - Today, **Senator Anna M. Kaplan** (D-North Hills) passed legislation, [S.931A/A.3217A](#), to reform the way that utilities respond during a mass outage event to prioritize service restoration for those with special medical needs. The legislation was introduced in the wake of PSEG-LI's failed response to Tropical Storm Isaias in August of 2020.

**Senator Anna M. Kaplan** said "In the aftermath of Tropical Storm Isaias, we on Long Island learned a lot of hard lessons about just how unprepared our utilities are for a major storm event. With hundreds of thousands without power, and PSEG-LI unable to properly manage the response, I received numerous calls from constituents who needed electricity to power their life-sustaining medical equipment, but who apparently were not considered an urgent priority for help by PSEG-LI. We can't leave people in the dark when their lives are on the line, so I'm proud to pass legislation that will ensure vulnerable New Yorkers are given priority, and treated with care during an emergency."

The bill, [S.931A/A.3217A](#), will:

- **Set Standards For Medical Priority Situations:** S.931A creates a definition for medical needs that encompasses a realistic list of situations that demand priority restoration in an emergency to prevent a rapid and significant decline in a person's health and well-being. Currently there is no standard to recognize that many medical conditions can be significantly triggered or exacerbated by a continued loss of power and that such conditions will have a significant adverse impact on that individual.

The bill previously passed the New York State Assembly, and having passed both houses will be sent to the Governor for consideration.

## 2021-S931A

emergency storm response, Storm Recovery, storm resiliency, PSEG Long Island; Consumer Protection; Disaster Preparedness; Tropical Storm Isaias; Power Outages

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- Introduced
- - In Committee Assembly
  - In Committee Senate
- - On Floor Calendar Assembly
  - On Floor Calendar Senate
- - Passed Assembly
  - Passed Senate
- Delivered to Governor
- Signed By Governor
- 

Defines medical needs for essential electricity and requires certain service providers to have outreach plans for customers with essential electricity medical needs

January 05, 2021

Senate Floor Calendar

Sponsored by [Anna M. Kaplan](#)

Do you support this bill?