



**Testimony of Mo-Yain Tham, NY Policy Researcher, Jobs to Move America
Committee on Environmental Conservation and Committee on Energy and Telecommunications
Joint Public Hearing On:
Climate and Community Investment Act (CCIA), April 13, 2021**

Members of the Committees, thank you for this opportunity to speak on the Climate and Community Investment Act (CCIA). My name is Mo-Yain Tham, I am the NY Policy Researcher with Jobs to Move America. We are a strategic policy center focused on making sure our public investments in infrastructure do the most public good -- creating good jobs and healthier communities.

Jobs to Move America, alongside our allies from NY Renewables, urge you to pass the CCIA this year in order to address the ongoing issue of climate change and the current economic crisis brought on by the pandemic. The CCIA would address carbon pollution while investing billions of public dollars in new infrastructure -- from electric buses for our transit systems to solar panels and wind turbines. The CCIA would ensure that the 150,000 jobs created would contribute to a green economy with good wages and benefits that help communities thrive.

The CCIA includes JMA's signature good jobs procurement policy, which is called the US Employment Plan (USEP). The USEP would require renewable energy projects and transit infrastructure funded by the CCIA, primarily focused on the supply chain, to create good green jobs through the government contracting process.

Through the procurement process, the bidders are given credit for proposing certain wages, benefits, training and retraining programs, and targeted hiring of people traditionally excluded from manufacturing- such as returning citizens and women of color. It encourages bidders to "compete up" in order to win the contract, as those with the most robust commitments are scored higher. Manufacturers can also commit to building facilities in NY state. Once the bidder wins the project, these commitments become legally enforceable in the contract.

Through the USEP, NY state can ensure that the manufacturing of off-shore wind towers at the Port of Albany, and the transitioning to off-shore wind components at the GE facility in Schenectady, would reinvigorate NY's manufacturing community and create thousands of good green jobs. Manufacturing of off-shore wind turbines in NY state and the U.S. is an exciting new growth industry. The potential to create thousands of good family sustaining jobs through these labor provisions is an important element to sustained economic recovery.

We encourage your Committees to support the CCIA to pass this year in order to start NY state on its economic recovery and continue to address the ongoing climate crisis. Thank you very much for your attention to this critical issue.