

## **PRESS STATEMENT**

### **For Immediate Release**

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### **New York Joins PA, MT in Adding Green Amendment to State's Constitution**

*Founder of the Green Amendment movement applauds New Yorkers' decision to  
protect their right to clean air and water, and a healthful environment in the  
State Bill of Rights*

**ALBANY, NY-** Maya van Rossum, founder of the national organization, Green Amendments For The Generations (GAFTG) is celebrating a monumental moment in the Green Amendment movement as New York becomes the third state in the nation, and the first in the 21st century, to add the right to clean air, clean water, and a healthful environment to their state constitution's Bill of Rights. Environmental Advocates of New York and the Adirondack Mountain Club have been key leaders and partners in the successful effort to secure New York environmental rights.

"It is so rewarding to see our hard work pay off in this immense way," Maya van Rossum said, "This victory has been over five years in the making, with NY being ground zero for the national Green Amendment movement. The people of New York have made their voices heard at the ballot and secured this crucial amendment in the name of environmental justice, protection, and longevity. With the passage of the NY Green Amendment, generations to come will know that they have an irrefutable right to clean air, clean water, and a healthful environment, that they can lean on whenever these inalienable human rights are threatened. This victory will serve as a litmus test as we look to the future and head full force towards passing Green Amendments in the 47 remaining states, 13 of which are already moving forward with formal proposals."

In 2017, Maya van Rossum coined the term "Green Amendment" in her book, "The Green Amendment: Securing Our Right to A Healthy Environment", which helped launch the Green Amendment movement. van Rossum has her sights on securing constitutional Green Amendments in every state across the U.S. and ultimately in the federal constitution.

"New York is on the cutting edge of the new national movement that seeks to secure highest constitutional recognition and protection of environmental rights in every state and at the federal level. Communities and states across the nation who are part of the national Green Amendment movement have been watching New York closely; I am delighted that this success will provide them all the inspiration they need to seek and secure their own meaningful rights to a clean and healthy environment like New Yorkers now have,"

continued van Rossum, who has also served as the Delaware Riverkeeper and leader of the Delaware Riverkeeper Network protecting the River that is the primary drinking water supply of New York City and communities in the down watershed states of PA, NJ and DE.

To learn more about the New York Green Amendment visit [www.NYGreenAmendment.org](http://www.NYGreenAmendment.org) or to find where the Green Amendment movement is in other states visit, [www.forthegenerations.org/actnow](http://www.forthegenerations.org/actnow)

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