

January 29, 2025

S.1574 & A.2657

To Whom It May Concern,

As a manufacturer of high quality, professional battery outdoor power equipment, STIHL Incorporated (d/b/a Northeast STIHL) supports both Senate Bill S.1574 and- Assembly Bill A.2657, which offer funding to help landscapers offset the cost of transitioning their equipment fleets to zero emission outdoor power equipment. Similar programs supporting professional battery adoption have seen great success in other states, and are well regarded by the landscaping community, as the programs protect both their businesses and the environment, and support their customers' demands.

While STIHL supports both bills (S.1574 & A.2657) in general, we highly recommend modeling this rebate program after the very successful California CORE program, which focused on getting high quality, long lasting professional battery products into the hands of landscaping professionals (<https://californiacore.org/how-to-participate-professional-landscape-2/>). The CORE program focused on small companies and sole proprietor landscapers, who often face challenges in transitioning from gas to battery. The program included product requirements, which aimed to keep true professional-grade products as the focus of the funding, instead of low quality/cheap battery products (which are easily exhausted by professional use and quickly wind up in landfills). The program also focused on the servicing dealer, ensuring that eligible products could be maintained and used for years to come.

As an active participant in the California CORE program, STIHL is happy to provide feedback to legislators and sponsors of this program to ensure its successful implementation.

Sincerely,



Jason Mabb
Directory of Branch Operations
Northeast STIHL