



## **MEMO OF SUPPORT**

### **S4464-A (Mayer) / A838-A (Solages)**

*Requires school board and labor representation  
in Industrial Development Agencies*

May 1, 2026

#### **TITLE OF BILL**

An act to amend the general municipal law, in relation to the organization of industrial development agencies [IDAs] and the definition of labor organization.

#### **STATEMENT OF SUPPORT**

Reinvent Albany supports this bill because it will make NYS economic development more equitable and inclusive.

IDAs in New York are notorious for their lack of diversity, largely dominated by politically-connected business executives and local electeds and lacking the very people most affected by agency decisions. Notably missing are labor and school board officials – even though IDA decisions impact the type of jobs workers get, and siphon tax revenue away from school districts. Currently, labor and school board officials can be appointed to IDA boards, but it is not required or frequently done.

Requiring IDAs to include labor and school board representation will ensure more New Yorkers have a say in the decisions that affect their lives. We ask the Legislature to pass the bill.

#### **SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS**

Section 1 adds a new subdivision 22 to General Municipal Law §854 to define “labor organization.” Section 2 amends General Municipal Law §856(2) to increase the maximum number of members on an IDA board from 7 to 9 and provide that each board shall include a representative from a local labor organization as well as either a school district superintendent or school board representative. Section 3 states that the bill takes effect 180 days after becoming law.