

America's 250th Anniversary

LIGRA

LONG ISLAND GASOLINE RETAILERS ASSOCIATION, INC. AND ALLIED TRADES



VOTE IN THE LIGRA 2026 PRIMARY
STRENGTH THROUGH PARTICIPATION

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2026

Address: 270 Spagnoli Road Suite 203, Melville, NY 11747 | WWW.LIGRA.COM



ASSOCIATION UPDATES

In response to rising postagerates, we are pleased to offer you the option of paying your LIGRA dues annually online, with no fees for ACH payments.

Please contact our office to arrange access to this convenient payment method.

PMI | U.S. U.S. Businesses
of Philip Morris International

PMI USA tobacco nicotine pouches, are now sponsoring our bi-monthly LIGRA Newsletter

ZYN nicotine pouches provide 28 million¹ American adults who smoke cigarettes a better option than continued smoking. Government policies on tobacco and nicotine should be based on science and common sense policies to ensure adult smokers have access to FDA-authorized smoke-free products.



What Is ZYN?

- ◆ ZYN is a small pouch made with plant-based fibers that contains naturally-derived, pharmaceutical-grade nicotine, food-grade fillers, and flavorings for a smoke-free and spit-free experience.
- ◆ It is designed to be placed between the upper lip and gum, allowing the nicotine to be absorbed orally.
- ◆ ZYN is available with 2 nicotine levels (3mg and 6mg) in 10 varieties mirroring longstanding smokeless tobacco product flavors.
 - ▶ Flavored – Menthol, Cool Mint, Peppermint, Wintergreen, Spearmint, Cinnamon, Coffee, and Citrus.
 - ▶ Unflavored – Smooth and Chill.

ZYN & Harm Reduction

- ◆ ZYN pouches have almost undetectable levels² of cancer-causing toxins compared to other smokeless tobacco products.³
- ◆ The overwhelming majority of ZYN users change their smoking behavior after starting ZYN.
 - ▶ Over 50 percent stopped smoking cigarettes.
 - ▶ Nearly one-third reduced the number of cigarettes smoked each day by more than half.⁴



The “Swedish Experience” & Real-World Evidence

The Swedish experience continues to provide real-world evidence and epidemiological data demonstrating the power of smoke-free tobacco products to reduce the harm caused by cigarettes.

- ◆ Tobacco-related illness and mortality for men is lower in Sweden⁵ than in any other European country.
- ◆ Smoking rates in Sweden have fallen to the lowest levels in Europe⁶, all while smoke-free product use has increased.

The Swedish experience is real-world evidence of how access to affordable, acceptable smoke-free products provides a better choice for adult smokers.

Adult Smokers Deserve Access To Better Choices: Smoke-Free Products

- ◆ ZYN is not risk-free. It contains nicotine, which is addictive.
- ◆ For adults smokers, quitting all tobacco products is always the best choice.
- ◆ On average, nine out of 10⁷ adult smokers continue smoking each year.
- ◆ ZYN is a better choice than continued smoking for these adult smokers.

Information provided by PMI Global Services, Inc. – January 2024. This information is intended for policy and regulatory discussions. It is not for advertising or promotional purposes and not intended for a consumer audience.

¹ CDC, Cigarette Smoking in the U.S. (May 4, 2023), <http://tinyurl.com/mwvst423>

² SM Internal Study, SMNA20-03: ZYN User Profile Study (2021), (pending publication)

³ Institute for Tobacco Studies, Mortality attributable to tobacco among men in Sweden and other European countries: an analysis of data in a WHO report (September 1, 2014), <http://tinyurl.com/3hf77dm>

⁴ Institute for Tobacco Studies, Mortality Attributable To Tobacco Among Men in Sweden and other European Countries: An Analysis of Data In A WHO Report (September 1, 2014), <http://tinyurl.com/3hf77dm>

⁵ BMC Chemistry, Harmful And Potentially Harmful Constituents (BPHCs) In Two Novel Nicotine Pouch Products In Comparison With Regular Smokeless Tobacco Products And Pharmaceutical Nicotine Replacement Therapy Products (NRTs) (March 3, 2023), <http://tinyurl.com/p5485qp>

⁶ OECD, State of Health In The EU, Sweden (December 13, 2021), <http://tinyurl.com/54uwl46>

⁷ CDC, Cigarette Smoking in the U.S. (May 4, 2023), <http://tinyurl.com/mwvst423>

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Ligra Endorsements

On August 25 and 27, the LIGRA Board of Directors invited candidates and incumbents seeking the offices of Governor, State Senate, and Assembly to take part in our annual screening and endorsement process. Each candidate was asked three questions addressing the statewide issues that matter most to LIGRA members.

The following questions were asked during LIGRA's 2026 political screening for Governor, State Senate, and Assembly candidates:

- 1) New York State currently charges \$27 for an emissions inspection and \$10 for a safety inspection. These fees have not changed in 29 years, even though a complete inspection now takes more than an hour. Many current regulations are also outdated. LIGRA has worked with the DMV to update the regulations and increase the inspection fee, but the proposal has been awaiting action from the Governor's office for more than a year.
- 2) Crime remains a serious concern for our members, especially regarding the safety of their employees and customers. Many are frustrated by what they view as insufficient enforcement of laws involving theft, assault, and property damage. What is your position on crime, public safety, and enforcing laws against repeat offenders??
- 3) The cost of health insurance continues to rise. New York State currently does not allow trade associations such as LIGRA to negotiate favorable health insurance plans on behalf of their members. For example, coverage for an employee and spouse can cost nearly \$2,900 per month. What is your position on increasing competition in the health insurance market and allowing trade associations to negotiate with insurance companies?

After reviewing the candidates' responses and qualifications, LIGRA believes the following candidates best reflect our priorities. We are proud to endorse them for Governor, State Senate, and Assembly.

We encourage you to post these endorsements at your business, share them with your customers, family, and friends, and urge them to support these candidates at the polls this November.

We also encourage you to display campaign signs on your property and, if you are able, consider making a direct contribution to support these campaigns.



Assembly

- | | |
|----|------------------------|
| 3 | Joe DeStefano |
| 4 | William A Sussman |
| 7 | Dawn Marie D Kuhn |
| 8 | Michael Fitzpatrick |
| 9 | Michael A. Durso |
| 10 | Steve Stern |
| 11 | Joseph Cardinal |
| 12 | David D Weber, Jr |
| 13 | Charles D. Lavine |
| 15 | Paolo A. Pironi |
| 17 | John K. Mikulin |
| 18 | Noah Burroughs |
| 19 | Edward P. Ra R |
| 20 | Eric Ari Brown R |
| 22 | Michaelle C. Solages D |

Governor Bruce Blakeman

District

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1 | Anthony Palumbo |
| 3 | Dean Murray |
| 4 | Monica Martinez |
| 5 | Steven D. Rhodes |
| 6 | Matthew Capp |
| 7 | Jacob Blumencranz |
| 9 | Lisa Vider |

"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children Ronald Reagan

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Long Island Gasoline Retailers, Melville, NY

06-5340

Are you taking advantage of these benefits of being a member of LIGRA



631-755-5550

WHAT YOU GET

LIGRA

Are you taking advantage of all of the benefits you are entitled to?

Let's Review ...

Workers Comp Safety Group

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Need we say more?



Legal Assistance

Discounted legal fees for all other issues including Free Legal fees for the 1st DMV Violation.

1

2

3

4

5

Exclusive 25% Discounted Payroll Service

Enables easier workers comp payments and audits



Lobbyists

Fighting in your interest against legislation mandates such as Mandatory electrical charging stations in all gas stations

Pssst Also DMV Seminars



WOW!



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GAS Sales-Tax Changes Took Effect September 1st

NYS Tax and Finance has released updated local sales and use tax information for qualified motor fuel, with several changes effective September 1, 2026.

The New York State and Metropolitan Commuter Transportation District (MCTD) sales and use tax rate on motor fuel and highway diesel motor fuel is a cents-per-gallon rate. This applies to sales of qualified fuel, as described in Schedule FR: Sales and Use Tax on Qualified Motor Fuel and Highway Diesel Motor Fuel.

The default local sales and use tax calculation method for motor fuel and highway diesel motor fuel is a percentage rate method. Counties and cities may elect to apply a cents-per-gallon method in lieu of the percentage rate method.

Jurisdiction Cents-per-gallon rate

New York State 8 cents a gallon Plus the New York State/MCTD of 8.75 cents a gallon

Plus the local county taxes in the affected jurisdictions should note the following:

Nassau County: 4 ¼ %

Suffolk County: 4 3/8%

New York City: 4 ½%

Plus the 15.8 cents per gallon petroleum tax

Plus .0875 cents per gallon on all motor fuels and diesel

Publication 718-F contains the complete September 1 schedule, including rates and calculation methods by jurisdiction.

MECHANIC RECRUITMENT INITIATIVE

Are You Looking for a Mechanic?

One of the most significant challenges reported by our members is the difficulty of finding qualified mechanics. The shortage of skilled professionals continues to be a recurring concern in the automotive repair industry.

Collaboration with Trade Schools

To help address this challenge, we are partnering with trade schools that specialize in automotive repair. These schools are seeking opportunities to place newly trained mechanics with reputable, well-managed repair shops. Through this collaboration, we aim to connect qualified graduates with employers whose needs are a strong match.



Interested in Hiring?

If you are interested in hiring any of these mechanics, please contact our LIGRA office at 631-755-5550. We will coordinate with the trade schools to provide you with resumes and arrange interviews at your location.

You NEED Permission to send customers text messages

Permission to send text messages to your customer while the car is being serviced

DOES NOT extend to permission to text them specials and promotions

Under New York law and the federal Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA), a customer's permission to receive text messages about their vehicle while it is being serviced **does not automatically extend** to permission for the shop to send promotional texts, special offers, or marketing messages.

These are legally distinct categories of communication governed by different consent standards. Transactional or service-related texts require only prior express consent (which may be oral, written, or implied by providing a phone number), while promotional and marketing texts sent via automated systems require prior express written consent under the TCPA, and must comply with New York's telemarketing statute. However, an established business relationship may provide a limited basis for promotional texts under New York's General Business Law, subject to the customer's right to opt out.

Under the TCPA The federal TCPA, draw a critical distinction between informational (transactional) communications and telemarketing (promotional) communications. This distinction directly governs the type of consent required. Purely informational or transactional text messages — such as notifications that a vehicle is ready for pickup, updates on repair status, or appointment reminders — are not considered telemarketing. For these non-telemarketing texts sent via an automatic telephone dialing system (ATDS), only prior express consent is required.

The FCC has long interpreted this prior express consent standard to be satisfied when a consumer voluntarily provides their telephone number to a business, reasoning that persons who knowingly release their phone numbers have in effect given their invitation or permission to be called at the number which they have given, absent instructions to the contrary. This consent may be oral, written, or implied by the act of voluntarily.

By contrast, promotional texts — messages advertising specials, discounts, or other offers — constitute telemarketing under the TCPA because they are designed to encourage the purchase of goods or services. For telemarketing texts sent via ATDS to a wireless number, the TCPA **requires prior express written consent**, defined as a signed written agreement that clearly authorizes the sender to deliver advertisements or telemarketing messages, includes the phone number to which such messages may be sent, and discloses that the consumer is not required to provide consent as a condition of any purchase. A customer's mere provision of a phone number at the service counter, without more, does not satisfy this heightened written consent requirement for marketing texts. The FCC has also established that messages with both informational and marketing content — so-called dual-purpose messages — are treated as telemarketing and subject to the prior express written consent requirement Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA). Thus, if a shop sends a text that combines a service update with a promotional offer, that message would be classified as telemarketing, requiring written consent.



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Garageman liens

We are excited to announce a new partnership that we believe will bring great value to you our LIGRA members.

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Why we Recommend LIEN ON IT:

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- Over 75 years combined experience in processing garageman's liens.
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- A commitment to top-tier customer support.

Modernized Approach

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- Customizable tracking and reporting to keep you up-to-date.

We believe that LIEN ONIT will provide significant benefits to your operations, and we encourage you to consider their services for your requirements. For more information, please visit their website or contact Jim directly.

www.lienonit.com info@lienonit.com 212-653-0136

TIME TO UPDATE YOUR TRAINING



New York State, MANDATES all employers, regardless of the company's size, must have a sexual harassment policy. Employers must also conduct ANNUAL interactive sexual harassment training and provide a written anti-harassment policy to ALL employees, to help keep you in compliance with these regulations.

To comply with the MANDATORY interactive sexual harassment training, LIGRA will be hosting this training class. These classes will be held in our LIGRA Office.

We do also offering sexual harassment training in addition, at your location.

The cost is \$40.00 per person for LIGRA members and \$75 per person for non-LIGRA members.

Contact us to set up your training, at Chris@LIGRA.COM

Some of the Benefits for being a member of LIGRA

LIGRA Your Voice in the Automotive Industry

Serving Long Island and New York City's Automotive Businesses

The Long Island Gasoline Retailers Association (LIGRA) proudly represents independent automotive repair shops, collision and body shops, convenience stores, gasoline service stations, and related businesses throughout Long Island and the five boroughs of New York.

Our mission is to support your business, protect your interests, and serve the motoring public through strong industry advocacy and valuable member services.

Member Benefits

Legislative & Regulatory Representation

- Industry advocacy at the state and local government levels
 - Representation before regulatory agencies and municipalities
 - Updates on current and proposed laws affecting your business
- Guidance on compliance with local and state regulations

Business Support & Compliance Assistance

- DMV licensing application assistance
- Department of Environmental Protection permit registration guidance
- Help navigating agency rules and regulations

Support with NYVIP3 and OPUS-related questions and service issues through established communication channels

Technical & Legal Resources

- Access to legal representation and industry guidance

Resources to help your business remain compliant and competitive

Workers' Compensation Safety Group

Members enjoy:

- Upfront premium discounts
- Some of the lowest workers' compensation rates available

Potential year-end dividends and rebates

Last year, participating members received a 35% rebate. If your business is not currently participating, contact LIGRA to learn how to join our Safety Group and start saving.

Insurance Programs

LIGRA offers access to:

- Multiple health insurance plans
- Enrollment and monthly billing assistance
- Medicare supplement plans for family members and friends enrolled in Medicare
- General liability insurance
- Garage Keepers coverage
- Environmental insurance programs

Stay Informed. Stay Protected. Stay Competitive.

Your LIGRA membership ensures that your business has a strong voice in Albany and with local governments while providing valuable programs designed to help your business succeed.

For more information about membership and available programs, visit LIGRA.com or contact LIGRA today.

Thing going on with the Long Island Gasoline Retailers Association

In response to rising postage costs, we are now offering members the option to pay their annual LIGRA dues online.

If you are not currently receiving our emails, please send us your email address so that we may add you to

We have been able to shelve a bill in Albany that we oppose and are actively working on that it does not get reintroduced to the next session. If enacted, this legislation would restrict the rates our towing members are permitted to charge

Are you taking advantage of our LIGRA Workers Comp policies? Why not. Over the years we offer the lowest rates and payback a 30%- 35% dividend.

- During this election cycle, we conducted candidate screenings for the offices of New York State Governor, Senate, and Assembly. Our annual political screening process begin in August. .

We encourage you to support and vote for thes candidated and encourage your family, freinds and customers to do the same

We are a non-profit trade association based on Long Island, New York. We represent our members at the local, state, and, when necessary, federal levels. For the past 96 years, we have worked diligently to advocate for the small, independent business owners who comprise our membership.



www.Ligra.com 11

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Web: www.ssveusa.com





LIGRA

Long Island Gasoline Retailers
Association, Inc.

270 Spagnoli Road, Suite 203
Melville, N.Y. 11747

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