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MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF
S.4830 (Kennedy) / A.5052 (Woerner)
Establishes a highway and depot charging action plan

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The Alliance for Clean Energy New York (ACE NY) supports S.4830 / A.5052, which will require the coordination of efforts to plan for electric vehicle charging stations, identifying priority sites for fast chargers, and expediting electric grid transmission and distribution, to ensure that light, medium, and heavy-duty vehicles have sufficient charging infrastructure. This legislation is essential to support the ambitious goals New York has laid out for electric vehicle adoption and emissions reduction.

The transportation sector accounts for about 28% of the state's greenhouse gas emissions. Ample charging infrastructure will be essential in order to rapidly transition to electric vehicles on the road in New York. A recently enacted law requires all new light-duty passenger vehicle sales in New York to be zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) by 2035, and all new medium- and heavy-duty vehicle sales be ZEVs by 2045. Drivers need to know that charging stations will be available as they contemplate electric vehicle (EV) purchases.

The process will require significant grid upgrades, with planning and collaboration from a multitude of entities, and can take years from planning to construction to ribbon cutting. New York, as well as other states, have experienced permitting and interconnection delays and grid capacity issues. The creation of a detailed plan could avoid some of these problems as well as keep costs to a minimum for all entities involved. A risk is that EV adoption outpaces the development of charging infrastructure. Identifying "no-regret" sites along the highways and areas that need depot charging for electric buses and fleets, will ensure that New York roadways are ready for EVs in time.

This legislation will create health and economic benefits for communities and the state as a whole. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving air quality will reduce health issues for New Yorkers, especially those in disadvantaged communities disproportionately affected by diesel emissions. Additionally, this bill will show the transportation electrification industry that New York is ready for sustainable business. The creation of this infrastructure will provide jobs and demonstrate a market for EVs, attracting manufacturers and developers to the state.

For the above reasons, the Alliance for Clean Energy New York supports this legislation. For more information contact Deb Peck Kelleher, Deputy Director, at (c) 518-698-3211. All of ACE NY's memos on legislation are available at <https://www.aceny.org/legislative-actions>.