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MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF
S.4977 (Harckham) / A.3779 (Fahy)
In Relation to Certificates of Registration for Entities That
Manufacture or Assemble Zero Emissions Vehicles and Have
No Franchised Motor Vehicle Dealers in New York

April 2023

The Alliance for Clean Energy New York (ACE NY) supports S.4977/A.3779 and urges its immediate passage. This bill would remove the limit on the number of certificate of registrations the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may issue and renew to manufacturers that manufacture or assemble exclusively zero emission vehicles (ZEVs). This bill will add the requirement that an eligible manufacturer must not have a franchised motor vehicle dealer of the same line-make in the State.

The purpose of this bill is to expand competition in the ZEV market and increase the location of sales centers, making these vehicles more accessible to all New Yorkers. Currently, there are only five electric vehicle (EV) direct sales locations throughout the State, and all of these stores are located downstate. This bill would increase the number of companies that can become certified ZEV sellers. As the ZEV market matures and more manufacturers offer a range of vehicles, it is important that New York State consumers have easy access to purchase the ZEV of their choice. In addition, the expansion of ZEV sales will result in new jobs and increased sales tax revenue across the State.

The State's new Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act requires New York to achieve a carbon-free electricity system by 2040 and has set a goal of reducing our greenhouse gas emissions by 40 percent from 1990 levels by 2030, and 85 percent by 2050. New York has also committed to putting 850,000 ZEVs on the road by the end of 2025 and 2 million ZEVs by the end of 2030, when it signed the ZEV MOU with other Northeast states. As of April 2023, New York had only reached 16.4 percent of that goal.

New York State's transportation sector is the second biggest greenhouse gas emitter in the State, accounting for nearly 28 percent of the State's emissions. If New York State is to achieve its emission reduction, climate, and clean air goals, then we must expand the deployment of ZEVs to displace fossil fuel-based vehicles. The beneficial electrification of our transportation sector is an important step to fulfilling the state's ambitions in battling climate change.

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>.