MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF
A.8248-A (Morelle) / S.6600-A (Amedore)
In Relation to Certificates of Registration for Entities that Manufacture or Assemble Zero Emissions Vehicles

March 7, 2018

The Alliance for Clean Energy New York (ACE NY) strongly supports A.8248-A/S.6600-A and urges its immediate passage. This bill would increase the certificates of registration for entities that manufacture or assemble zero-emissions vehicles while offering repair services to those vehicles throughout the state. The purpose of this bill is to promote the use of zero-emission vehicles by making those vehicles more accessible to all New Yorkers.

Currently, there are only 5 certificates available for sellers of zero-emissions vehicles, and consequently there are only 5 stores selling these vehicles, all located downstate. This bill would increase the number of certificates available to 20, and require that each region of New York State have at least one seller/repairer of zero-emission vehicles. With these new stores comes new jobs for the state, increased consumer choice for New York residents, and fairer access.

The state has set a goal of cutting its 1990 levels of greenhouse gas emissions 40 percent by 2030 and 80 percent by 2050. In support of this effort, programs were included in the 2016-2017 New York State budget to encourage the use of zero-emission vehicles. And New York has committed with other Northeast states to put 1.4 million zero-emission vehicles on the road by 2025. This bill will complement those state programs by widening the geographic scope of access to zero-emissions vehicles, while also making it more convenient for all New Yorkers to service these vehicles.

According to NYSERDA, in 2014 New York State’s transportation sector was the biggest greenhouse gas emitter in the state, accounting for nearly 34 percent of the state’s emissions. If New York State is to achieve its emission reduction, climate change, and resiliency goals, then we must expand the deployment of zero-emission vehicles to displace fossil fuel-based vehicles. On average, an electric car in New York emits 82 percent less CO2 than a conventional car, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. The beneficial electrification of New York State’s transportation sector is an important step to fulfilling the state’s ambitions in battling climate change.

New Yorkers from Buffalo to Montauk should have the opportunity to voluntarily help clean up the state’s fleet of vehicles with convenient access to zero-emission vehicle sales and service centers. This will not only benefit New York State consumers, but will serve as a great benefit to the state.

For the above reasons, the Alliance for Clean Energy New York supports this legislation. For more information contact Anne Reynolds, Executive Director, at 518.432.1405.