



For a thriving New England

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BY EMAIL

Committee on Energy and Technology
Legislative Office Building, Room 3900
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In support of: *H.B. No. 6030*, AN ACT CONCERNING ZERO-EMISSION VEHICLES
IN CONNECTICUT, and
H.B. No. 6031, AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Dear Senator Doyle, Representative Reed, and members of the Committee on Energy and Technology:

Conservation Law Foundation (“CLF”) submits this testimony in support of Proposed H.B. No. 6030, An Act Concerning Zero-Emission Vehicles in Connecticut, and proposed H.B. No. 6031, An Act Concerning Electric Vehicles. These bills would help Connecticut reduce greenhouse gas emissions and local air pollutants by establishing incentives and policies encouraging drivers to choose electric vehicles (EVs) and other zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs).

CLF is a nonprofit environmental organization committed to conserving natural resources, protecting public health, and promoting thriving communities throughout New England. CLF has long supported the promotion of EVs and ZEVs as a means to reduce carbon emissions associated with global warming.

EVs have significant environmental and economic benefits. EVs result in less than half the greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) and substantially lower criteria pollutant emissions than traditional internal combustion vehicles. For instance, EVs emit less particulate matter, formaldehyde, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, and sulfur dioxide – all criteria pollutants that are associated with negative health impacts, including premature death, and cardiac and respiratory dysfunction. Total GHG and criteria pollutant emission reductions from the transportation sector are proportionally greater in New England than in regions of the country with continued heavy reliance on coal for electricity generation.

EVs are also a winning proposition in terms of household, local business, and statewide economics. The fuel revenues generated by EVs largely remain local, while gasoline and diesel costs paid by Connecticut residents generally leave the state and region. EVs are also less

expensive than traditional internal combustion vehicles in terms of all-in customer cost over the lifetime of the vehicle.

Connecticut has the potential to join other New England states and become a national leader in electrification of the transportation sector, but there is a lot of work to be done to make that vision a reality. Other states are already embracing policies that will further EV development, such as implementing sales tax exemptions or rebates for EV owners, expanding EV charging infrastructure, or putting into place ZEV fleet mandates. These proposed bills are critical steps in getting Connecticut on board with this regional movement to increase the number of EVs and ZEVs in our transportation mix.

In conclusion, CLF strongly supports H.B. No. 6030 and H.B. No. 6031. Legislation that promotes the adoption of EVs and ZEVs is vital to achieving a regional shift towards electrifying the transportation sector.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Mihaly".

Elena Mihaly
Legal Fellow
Conservation Law Foundation