

Testimony of

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Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, Inc.

Before the

Energy and Technology Committee

February 10, 2015

Regarding

**Proposed H.B. No. 6030 - An Act Concerning Zero-Emission Vehicles In Connecticut  
and  
Proposed H.B. No. - 6031 An Act Concerning Electric Vehicles**

## *Introduction*

The Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, Inc. (“CCAT”), offers this testimony in support of Proposed H.B. No. 6030 - An Act Concerning Zero-Emission Vehicles In Connecticut and Proposed House Bill. No. - 6031 An Act Concerning Electric Vehicles.

CCAT is a nonprofit corporation that provides services and resources to entrepreneurs, businesses, industry, academia, and government. The Energy Initiative of CCAT has been established to improve the economic competitiveness of the region through solutions that lower energy costs and increase long-term energy reliability. This CCAT Initiative also provides assistance to businesses and manufacturers regarding energy use and energy efficiency; promotes use of sustainable and renewable energy; and undertakes energy planning, including regional planning for zero emission vehicle (ZEV) deployment.

These Proposed Bills involve concepts that would encourage the purchase, lease and use of electric vehicles (EV) and zero emission vehicles (ZEV). The deployment of EV using 1) battery electric vehicle (BEV) technology, and 2) hydrogen powered fuel cell electric vehicle (FCEV) technology will reduce the region’s dependency on oil, improve air and water quality, meet carbon and ZEV requirements, potentially utilize renewable energy from indigenous sources such as biomass, wind, and photovoltaic (PV) power, and increase the number of clean energy sector jobs within the Northeast.

The use of FCEV, which is an EV and ZEV technology, will also provide market value with vehicles that are convenient for consumer use, powerful with no voltage drop after use, easily

refueled in 3 to 5 minutes consistent with conventional refueling, and have a range of 300+ miles to avoid refueling anxiety.

Public policy to facilitate the purchase, lease, and use of ZEVs and EVs is appropriate and consistent with existing policy to increase energy reliability, improve environmental performance, and enhance transportation efficiency. The deployment of FCEVs would also bolster the State's hydrogen production industry, increase economic development and create more "green" jobs.

As background, California, one of the leaders in the development of public policy for the adoption of ZEVs, has established the Clean Vehicle Rebate Project (CVRP) that encourages technologies and innovations that provide immediate air pollution emission reductions and that stimulate development and deployment of sustainable transportation. The CVRP in California is administered by an independent non-profit organization to provide incentives for the purchase or lease of zero-emission and plug-in hybrid light-duty vehicles.

I suggest consideration in the development of a unified concept to include:

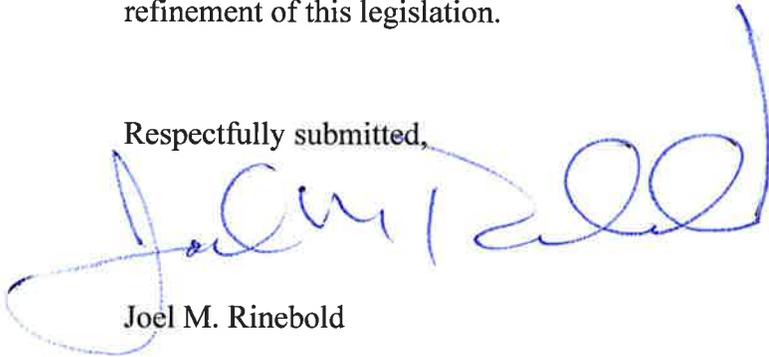
- Detailed provisions for both BEV and FCEV;
- Development of a Connecticut Clean Vehicle Adoption Program to encourage the purchase, lease and use of ZEVs and EVs;
- Flexibility for direct purchase and lease arrangements, with lease arrangements to potentially include the provision of fuel; and
- Availability for the direct purchase or lease by private entities including fleet owners, and public entities including state and municipal agencies.

*Conclusion*

CCAT is supportive of the concept to encourage the deployment of zero emission vehicles (ZEV) and electric vehicles (EV) in the State, which will improve air quality, improve energy reliability, and create jobs throughout the supply chain.

CCAT will make itself available to the Committee and legislature upon request to assist in the refinement of this legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joel M. Rinebold", with a large, stylized flourish extending upwards and to the right.

Joel M. Rinebold

Director of Energy Initiatives