Testimony of

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Before the

Energy and Technology Committee

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Regarding

Raised House Bill No. 7009 - An Act Concerning Electric and Zero-Emission Vehicles

The Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, Inc. (CCAT), offers this testimony in support of House Bill No. 7009 - An Act Concerning Electric and Zero-Emission 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 deployment.

This proposed Bill involves a concept favorable for the deployment of zero emission vehicles (ZEV) including 1) battery electric vehicles, 2) range-extended battery electric vehicles, and 3) hybrid electric vehicles. The use of zero emission vehicles will reduce the region's dependency on oil, improve air and water quality, meet carbon and zero emission vehicles requirements, potentially utilize renewable energy from indigenous sources such as wind and photovoltaic (PV) power, and increase the number of clean energy sector jobs within the Northeast.

CCAT suggests modifying the definition of zero emission vehicle to include hydrogen powered fuel cell electric vehicles. Fuel cells use an electrochemical reaction/process to convert hydrogen to electricity, without combustion, to allow power to be delivered to the driver wheels. Provisions to facilitate the use of zero emission vehicles, including fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEV), are appropriate and consistent with existing policy to increase energy reliability, improve environmental performance, and increase economic development and the creation of "green" jobs.

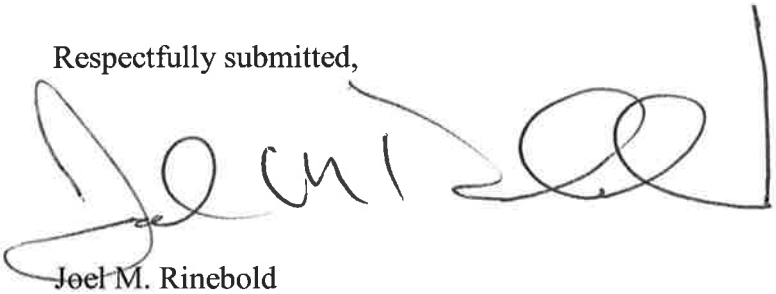
CCAT also suggests refinement of the concepts introduced in the proposed house bill to:

- implement time of day rates for public electric vehicle charging and hydrogen refueling stations; and
- adopt standards from the national Institute of Standards and Technology to measure and sell hydrogen in addition to electricity.

CCAT is supportive of the concept to encourage the deployment of zero emission vehicles 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,



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