

We SUPPORT S.B. 127, An Act Concerning the Sale of Electric Vehicles in the State.

We are in favor of this legislation for these 6 reasons:

1. It will encourage the adoption of sustainable transportation in CT, which will lower pollution and reduce reliance on fossil fuels and foreign oil.
2. It will increase CT tax revenue from vehicle sales.
3. It will stimulate the local economies surrounding EV sale locations.
4. It will help CT residents to purchase vehicles that cost less to run and maintain. This results in household savings that can be better spent on other things.
5. It allows CT residents to shop for and purchase a US made product in the way they would like: online and direct from the manufacturer with no "middleman".
6. It will encourage CT residents to stay in CT.

Regardless of whether everyone agrees on manmade climate change, there is a simple truth that fossil fuel vehicles pollute our environment and make us more reliant on dwindling and foreign sources of oil. Because of this, we decided to purchase a Tesla Model 3 electric car from Tesla Motors. Our chosen electric supply is 100% green and renewable, so we can power this car cleanly and for much less money than a traditional internal combustion vehicle. No gasoline, no oil changes, far fewer moving parts, safer, cleaner, etc. It is also incredibly fun to drive. As long-time auto enthusiasts this was the perfect car for us.

We then discovered that CT has been blocking Tesla from selling their cars directly to consumers, which was unnecessary and very troubling. A US company makes fantastic cars... CT residents really want to buy those cars... why the fuss? What is more American than that?

We ordered our car online but were then forced by CT law to travel to NY in order to pick it up. The tax dollars went to NY. The Tesla reps that we worked with lived in NY and were employed in NY. We stopped for lunch and shopping on the way home and every one of those dollars went to NY businesses with taxes going to NY. We were determined to purchase this car no matter how far we had to travel, and we know that others feel the same way. **CT is literally driving people out of the state because of this outdated law.**

We've heard the arguments from the dealer networks wanting to be the middlemen, but while it certainly would be in their own best personal interest to pursue that for the sake of profits - it hardly seems like something that CT state law needs to enforce on behalf of its residents.

This bill does not close any dealerships. This bill does not disband any dealer associations. This bill does not force any auto dealers to do anything different from what they are doing now. Let the people and free market decide which products they want to buy and from whom.

We as a people need to stand up for sustainable choices in our world and promote practices that will help our environment. This bill will make that choice easier for a large number of CT residents, while at the same time stimulating the economy of our great state. It is time to change the status quo.

We strongly encourage the members of the Transportation Committee to vote in favor of S.B. 127

Respectfully,

Kent and Christine Golden

Woodbridge, CT
2/18/2021