

**Testimony of
Mike Lynch
in Opposition to
Senate Bill 127: An Act Concerning the Sale of Electric Vehicles in the State
Transportation Committee
February 19, 2021**

Chairmen Lemar and Cassano, Ranking Members Somers and Carney and Members of the Transportation Committee, my name is Mike Lynch. I operate Lynch Toyota. We have been proudly serving Manchester and the Greater Hartford area since 1970. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong opposition to Senate Bill 127: An Act Concerning the Sale of Electric Vehicles in the State.

Senate Bill 127 would allow electric car manufacturers to sell direct to costumers, eliminating strong consumer protections that have been developed for decades in Connecticut. Connecticut's current franchise model allows Connecticut new car dealers to serve as advocates for buyers. Our current model works, and passage of SB 127 diminishes these protections.

Further, Senate Bill 127 is unnecessary. Connecticut new car dealers are committed to selling electric vehicles and over 40 electric vehicles are available for sale. Connecticut's Automotive Retailers Association and CT DEEP work together to promote the CHEAPR program which was set up in 2015 to serve as an incentive to promote the purchase of electric vehicles. This program continues to grow and soon the program will be expanding their incentive program to provide enhanced rebates to low to middle income wage earners.

I ask the committee to vote NO and reject Senate Bill 127.

Thank you.