



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT of SB 127  
AAC THE SALE OF ELECTRIC VEHICLES IN THE STATE

February 11, 2021

**To:** Honored Chair Rep. Lemar, Vice Chairs Sen. Cassano and Rep. Simms, Ranking Members Sen. Somers and Rep. Carney, and Distinguished Members of the Transportation Committee

**From:** Lori Brown, Connecticut League of Conservation Voters

On behalf of the Connecticut League of Conservation Voters (CTLCV), thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony **IN SUPPORT of SB 127** AAC Electric Vehicles in the State. CTLCV has continually supported similar legislation in previous sessions because we believe it is necessary to remove outdated obstacles for consumers who want to purchase electric vehicles.

Our neighbors in New York and Massachusetts already allow electric vehicles to be sold directly to consumers, driving business—and revenue—away from Connecticut. Given our state's need for additional revenue as well as the growing appetite for electric vehicles, allowing direct sales is a clear win for both our environment and our economy.

According to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, pollution from transportation accounts for 38% of Connecticut's greenhouse gas emissions. Our state has passed ambitious greenhouse gas emissions goals and must take steps to reduce pollution from transportation by replacing traditional combustion cars with electric vehicles.

Unfortunately, traditional car dealers lack enthusiasm or motivation when it comes to selling electric vehicles. Because these cars often require less maintenance than traditional combustion engine vehicles, dealers often place sales of traditional cars ahead of electric vehicles.

**Electric vehicles are beneficial to all Connecticut residents by decreasing air pollution**, which disproportionately causes asthma and other respiratory diseases in urban and low-income communities that suffer higher exposure to pollution.

**Electric vehicles are significantly more fuel efficient and require far less maintenance** than traditional cars powered by internal combustion engines.

**Direct sales of electric cars and traditional dealer franchises coexist throughout the country.** To date, there is no evidence of job loss in states where manufacturers sell directly to consumers.

From an environmental, clean energy, and economic perspective, anything that makes it easier for consumers to drive, purchase, and maintain an electric vehicle is good for Connecticut. SB 127 would promote consumer choice, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, and improved public health. CTLCV urges you to **VOTE YES on SB 127**.

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