



MEMORANDUM IN OPPOSITION

S.1736-E (Krueger)/A.3780-E (Fahy)

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to requiring new construction that includes dedicated off-street parking to provide electric vehicle charging stations and electric vehicle ready parking spaces

The Capital Region Chamber, representing 2,600 businesses and organizations from throughout the Capital Region that employ more than 150,000 area residents, opposes S.1736-E/A.3780-E, which would require that new construction with dedicated off-street parking involving a garage, driveway, parking lot or other off-street parking have electric vehicle charging stations or electric vehicle ready parking spaces.

While the Capital Region Chamber supports efforts to reduce the carbon intensity of our economy, we believe that the state's energy policies must ensure access to secure, affordable, and reliable energy, protect energy consumers and their choices, and provide meaningful environmental progress. The Chamber appreciates the sponsors' intent behind this legislation. However, we believe that it would be imprudent to enact this bill.

Consumers and businesses are already facing ever increasing prices due to inflation, a tight labor market and supply chain constraints. These price increases have impacted residential and commercial real estate development. The mandates included in this legislation would only exacerbate this situation. The Legislature should not consider policies that will reduce consumer choice, increase construction costs of residential and commercial properties, and ultimately harm our economy.

It is important to note that under the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, the Climate Action Council was tasked with developing a draft scoping plan that serves as an initial framework for how the state will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, achieve net-zero emissions, and increase renewable energy usage. The CAC's Final Scoping Plan was adopted on December 19, 2022. One of the CAC's recommendations is related to the pending legislation. Unfortunately, as with the scoping plan, the sponsors of this bill fail to provide a cost estimate for this proposal. The Legislature should avoid acting on any energy policy related legislation until they provide the public with a full fiscal analysis of each proposal. It would be imprudent to do otherwise and goes against public transparency.

For these stated reasons, the Capital Region Chamber opposes this legislation.

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