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MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

BILL: S.6825 (Seward) / A.9618 (Lifton)

SUBJECT: Infrastructure Friendly Vehicle Requirements

DATE: May 13, 2014

The Associated General Contractors of New York State, LLC (AGC NYS), the leading statewide trade association representing both union and non-union construction companies, supports S.6825 (Seward) / A.9618 (Lifton) which extends the date of retrofitting compliance for infrastructure friendly vehicles (IFV).

In 2004, the enacted New York State Budget contained language that created new IFV requirements for certain vehicles obtaining an overweight divisible load permit. A "divisible load" is any vehicle or combination of vehicles transporting cargo, such as construction materials, of legal dimensions that can be separated into units of legal weight without affecting the physical integrity of the load. Vehicles manufactured after 2006 must meet all IFV requirements in order to obtain a divisible load permit. Due to the significant expense of retrofitting pre-model year 2006 vehicles, the Governor and Legislature extended the compliance date to December 31, 2014.

Retrofitting pre-model year 2006 vehicles to meet IFV standards is an expensive and time consuming proposition for haulers. The average cost to retrofit a pre-model year 2006 vehicle is \$9,000 with additional expenses for time in the repair shop. The average purchase price of a new IFV compliant vehicle ranges from \$100,000 to \$200,000.

Ten years after the IFV requirements were enacted, the New York State Department of Transportation estimates that approximately 50 percent of permitted vehicles are still not in compliance with the IFV requirements. This legislation is necessary for the construction industry because it extends the compliance date for all vehicles requiring a divisible load permit to December 31, 2019.

Therefore, AGC NYS supports S.6825 (Seward) / A.9618 (Lifton) because the construction industry is heavily reliant on the uninterrupted delivery of materials to rebuild New York's deteriorating roads and bridges.