SB 127 Direct Sales Bill Public Hearings Held on 2/19

SB 127 - Permit EV Exclusive Manufacturers to Sell Direct in CT

A virtual public hearing was held yesterday by the legislature for this bill. Both written and oral comments were solicited.

Of the 76 <u>written comments</u> and a full day of Zoom testimony, every consumer that testified was in favor of passing this bill. Not really a surprise that consumers support a consumerfriendly bill. It is still opposed by dealerships and the OEMs. Nothing has changed.

It is difficult to read the tea leaves regarding the impact of testimony, pro or con. The bill has to pass a committee vote and then be called for a vote in both chambers. We are encouraged by the large number of comments submitted and the support we are receiving.

Judging by the response in the testimony, constituents are sending a message: protecting the environment is important and consumer choice is important, more important than protecting outdated laws.

Special thanks to Senator Haskell and Representative Steinberg who submitted the bill, as well as Representatives Wood and Michel who came on board as co-sponsors.

This is a link to the full (7.5 hours) video which is posted to the Transportation Committee's <u>YouTube Channel</u>.

Some relevant time-stamps:

Tesla - 1:29:58

Lucid - 5:13:56

Rivian -6:39:27

Senator Will Haskell (bill sponsor) - 2:30:19

Mike Liebow (Tesla Owners Club) -5:30:46 — And check out his pointed comments <u>here</u>

Leadership of EV Club CT:

Analiese Paik - 5:35:42

Paul Braren - 6:52:13

Barry Kresch - 7:10:40

Beats Netflix!

Thanks to all who were involved in this effort. And let's keep at it.

Paul Braren also wrote a detailed and thoughtful piece on his blog.