



S U P P O R T

MEMORANDUM IN

S U P P O R T

OF

S.4682A – Kennedy

The CSEA strongly supports this legislation.

This bill amends various sections of Vehicle and Traffic Law, General Municipal Law, and Public Officers Law to allowing the Department of Transportation (DOT) and New York State Thruway Authority to establish a demonstration program to implement speed monitoring cameras in work zones.

Hundreds of New Yorkers are injured every year in crashes in work zones on State roads and bridges, and things are only getting worse. In 2019, CSEA-represented State DOT worker Matt Howe was struck and killed in a work zone. While the driver responsible for this tragedy was rightly found guilty of criminally negligent homicide, that conviction will not bring Matt back to his wife and children.

Something must be done to better protect highway workers before another tragedy strikes.

Work zone speed cameras have a proven record of success in the states where they have been implemented. Maryland saw an 80% reduction in speeding violations and a 50% drop in fatalities after implementing speed cameras. A study of work zone cameras in Illinois found that cameras were as effective in reducing speed as having a police car present in the work zone. In Oregon, the mean speed of vehicles in work zones dropped by 10.5 mph when cameras were in use.

A work zone speed camera program makes sense for New York to make our roads safer for workers and drivers alike, and to ensure that the dedicated CSEA members that make our roads safe for travel get to go home safe at the end of the day.

On behalf of more than 300,000 active and retired, public and private employees across New York State, CSEA strongly urges the passage of this legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

Fran Turner
Director