



S U P P O R T

LEGISLATIVE MEMORANDUM

TO: New York State Senate & New York State Assembly

FROM: Joshua Terry, Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA)

DATE: May 27, 2025

RE: CSEA Support for S. 8184 (Cooney)

What the bill does: Increases criminal penalties for assaulting certain employees of the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and Department of Transportation (DOT) and similar employees in local governments and the private sector.

Why it matters: Public employees who interact with the public are more likely to be assaulted while working. In a survey of New York motor vehicle license examiners, **more than 50 percent of respondents said that they experienced workplace violence**, including being kidnapped, slapped, punched, and being threatened with physical violence.

Key Provisions:

- Raises criminal penalties from a **Class A misdemeanor to a Class D felony** for **assaulting a:**
 - Motor vehicle license examiner
 - Motor vehicle representative
 - Highway worker (state, local government, or private sector)
 - Motor carrier investigator
 - Motor vehicle inspector

The bottom line: Increasing penalties for assaulting these workers will **deter** future violence and help ensure employees can go to work **without fear of being assaulted or killed**.

Go Deeper: “*Department of Motor Vehicles Workplace Violence Data Analysis*”



The Civil Service Employees Association strongly supports the passage of this bill.

For additional information, contact:

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