

**Legislative and Political Action Department** 

CSEA, LOCAL 1000 AFSCME, AFL-CIO

Mary E. Sullivan, President

# S U P P O R T

# **LEGISLATIVE MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Senate Committee on Transportation

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

**DATE:** May 26, 2025

## **RE: CSEA** Support for S. 4649-A (Cooney)

What the bill does: This legislation <u>increases penalties</u> for failing to comply with New York State's Move Over Law.

**Why it matters:** The Move Over Law requires drivers to slow down and move over when approaching a vehicle on the roadside. This law protects highway workers, first responders, and anyone stopped on the side of the road. However, many drivers fail to comply, putting lives at risk.

#### The statistics:

- From 2016 to 2020, <u>37 individuals were killed</u> outside disabled vehicles in New York.
- Nationwide, about <u>300 people</u> are fatally struck on the roadside each year.

Key provisions: This bill increases penalties for failing to move over as follows:

- First conviction: from \$150 to **\$275**
- Second conviction within 18 months: from \$300 to **\$450**
- Third conviction within 18 months: from \$450 to **\$750**

**The bottom line:** By increasing penalties failing to move over, this bill deters dangerous behaviors and protects highway workers, first responders, and any driver on the side of the road.

## The Civil Service Employees Association strongly supports its passage.

#### For additional information, contact:

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