

<u>New York Farm Bureau</u> Kat Slye-Hernandez, PhD Senior Associate Director of Public Policy P.518.588.6338 kslye-hernandez@nyfb.org

MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

Senate Bill 8762 (Senator Skoufis) /Assembly Bill 9666 (Assemblymember Lupardo)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE TRANSPORTATION LAW, IN RELATION TO DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM TO REDUCE TIME SPENT AT MULTIPLE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CHECKPOINTS IN THE SAME DAY.

Date: 4/19/2024

New York Farm Bureau, the state's largest general farm organization, would like to express its support for this legislation. This bill directs the state DOT to create a program whereby trucks only have to stop at a safety checkpoint once a day.

Multiple long stops when hauling perishable goods and animals including vegetables, fruit, fish, livestock, bees, etc. can harm farmers by not only delaying their delivery of goods but can lead to spoiling of such goods. It also adds unnecessary stress on the animals who must remain on the truck longer than necessary when drivers have to stop multiple times in quick succession for long periods for these inspections.

There are examples of how to address these issues and prevent the need for multiple stops. Currently some DOT inspection sites issue stickers that indicate a truck has undergone an inspection that day, but it is not widely used nor does it have to be honored by the inspector at the next stop. Additionally, the State of California has a sticker program where the sticker for a safety inspection is good for 3 months.

Having a system whereby trucks do not have to stop multiple times in a day for a safety inspection will go a long way in helping farmers transport products and animals quickly and safely. For the above reasons, New York Farm Bureau requests your support of this legislation.