



March 5, 2013

RE: S.1119-A Maziarz/A.4202 Camara

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

Unshackle Upstate, a non-partisan, pro-taxpayer, pro-economic growth, education and advocacy coalition made up of business and trade organizations from all parts of Upstate New York, supports the enactment of this proposal.

S.1119-A exempts the storage and transportation of small quantities of liquefied natural gas (LNG), provided that all such activities conform to federal, regulations and codes administered by the National Fire Protection Association, in order to facilitate LNG fueling and the use of LNG as an alternative to diesel fuel for heavy duty trucking.

But the transition to natural gas as a transportation fuel presents several significant challenges - from economics to operability – one of the largest of which relates to the lack of an adequate refueling infrastructure.

Current state law does not permit LNG to be used as a transportation fuel. This legislation represents the first step toward establishing an LNG refueling infrastructure, and it does so without requiring any taxpayer expenditures.

Natural gas vehicles are a safe alternative with a proven track record. They run quieter than their diesel counterparts. Finally, natural gas is a plentiful, domestically-produced energy source that could help to reduce our dependence on petroleum imports.

Unshackle Upstate urges enactment of this legislation.