



MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

A. 5842 – NOLAN/ S. 273A - GALLIVAN

The New York Association for Pupil Transportation **SUPPORTS A5842** by Assembly Member Nolan and **S273A** by Senator Gallivan.

This legislation would amend Chapter 363 of the Laws of 2018 relating to requirements for school employees to report cases of child abuse in educational settings and to the provision of training for those employees in fulfilling their reporting responsibilities.

That 2018 legislation clarified that the provisions of the new law would apply to school bus drivers employed by private school bus contractors. It did not extend that application to school bus drivers employed directly by local school districts.

This new legislation would correct that and ensure that the law applies to all school bus drivers regardless of ownership or the nature of their employment.

NYAPT believes it is paramount for all children to be safe from harm and able to know that the adults in their lives are committed to their safety and protection. This legislation is consistent with that belief.

We look forward to the implementation of this legislation, including the delivery of necessary training and preparation for all school bus drivers in the state.

We urge the Legislature to pass **A5842/S273A**, and we will similarly urge the Governor to approve the bill upon passage.

The New York Association for Pupil Transportation is a professional organization comprised of over 600 members, representing school transportation officials in school districts, BOCES, private school bus operators, and public educational institutions across New York State. NYAPT is committed first and always to the safety of the 2.3 million school children we transport to and from school each and every day. We are committed to actively support legislation, regulations and policies that are in the interests of those school children and call upon our State leaders to keep those children in mind during legislative actions.

For additional information, please contact our NYAPT Executive Director, David Christopher, at 518-463-4937.