



AMERICANS *for* TAX REFORM

Grover G. Norquist
President

September 26, 2017

Dear Senators,

Americans for Tax Reform supports the concepts and guidelines in H.R. 3388, the SELF DRIVE Act, and urges you to maintain the division of regulatory authority between state and federal bodies as you consider automated vehicle legislation.

The SELF DRIVE Act correctly delineates the purview of federal versus state regulation for autonomous vehicles. In short, federal regulatory bodies have authority when it comes to the car, while states have authority when it comes to the driver.

States are not prohibited from activities regulating registration, licensing, training, insurance, law enforcement, safety and emissions inspections, congestion management, or crash investigation. And states maintain purview over dealership activities such as sale, distribution, and repair. These are all activities involving the human element of the driver that states have traditionally been responsible for, and that responsibility is maintained.

To maintain consistency, increase safety, speed development, and promote commerce, regulations regarding design, construction, performance and equipment remains with federal bodies.

States are not handcuffed from unlocking potential benefits of this new technology; states and localities are prevented from handcuffing the future with excessive and misguided regulation.

Maintaining these divisions does not cripple the ability of cities and states to ensure safe operations. States still decide qualifications for operation, insurance, sale, and local road conditions. It would decrease safety, if states were able to enforce varying technical, mechanical, or software standards. Not only would there be confusion, but further delay in automated vehicle roll out increases lives lost - lives will be saved because automated vehicles will reduce the occurrence of preventable accidents.

Nothing in this legislation prevents states from continuing current activities to manage traffic congestion, collect data on collisions, or redesign dangerous intersections.

States should not be able to require data from automated vehicles by legislation. Privacy polices should be consistent nationwide. Federal agencies are already working together to prevent duplication and develop best practices in concert with the automotive and tech industries.

722 12th Street N.W.

Fourth Floor

Washington, D.C.

20005

T:(202)785-0266

F:(202)785-0261

www.atr.org

Automated vehicles are better equipped to create so-called greener environments than governments. Increased full efficiency and more opportunities for vehicle sharing will lead to reduced emissions without over taxing and regulating citizens.

Mobility will be revolutionized. Underserved communities without reliable means of transportation will be more integrated into the global economy; seniors and people with disabilities will have more personal autonomy; and, will be able to fill gaps where public transportation has failed.

Maintaining state regulation of the driver, and federal regulation of the vehicle will encourage development and market introduction increasing safety on our roads.

Please contact Katie McAuliffe by email, kmcauliffe@atr.org, or phone, 202-785-0266, with any questions or comments.

Onward,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. G. Norquist', written in a cursive style.

Grover G. Norquist