



July 17, 2017

TO: Members, Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection

FROM: Committee Majority Staff

RE: Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection Markup

I. INTRODUCTION

The Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection will meet in open markup session on Wednesday, July 19, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. in 2123 Rayburn House Office Building to consider the following:

- H.R. ____, Staff Draft on Highly Automated Vehicle Testing and Deployment

II. EXPLANATION OF LEGISLATION

A. H.R. ____, Staff Draft on Highly Automated Vehicle Testing and Deployment Act

The legislation clarifies the federal and state roles for regulating highly automated vehicles (HAVs) to encourage the testing, development, and deployment of HAVs in the United States. The legislation requires the submission of safety assessment certifications by manufacturers of HAVs and requires the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to publish a rulemaking and safety priority plan for HAVs. The legislation requires manufacturers to develop a written cybersecurity plan that includes vulnerability detection and response practices, identification of the individual responsible for the management of cybersecurity, a process for controlling access to automated driving systems, and employee training and management.

The legislation expands existing exemption authority for NHTSA to evaluate and approve exemptions from Federal motor vehicle safety standards only if there is no reduction in safety. The legislation expands the number of vehicles that may be granted an exemption and the duration of exemptions. The legislation expands the testing measures from the FAST Act (Public Law No: 114-94) to include additional entities who meet specific reporting and obligations. The legislation requires NHTSA to initiate a rulemaking on the terminology to use for consumer education efforts.

The legislation creates a Federal Advisory Committee within NHTSA with subcommittees: to examine mobility access for the disabled community; mobility access for senior citizens and populations underserved by traditional public transportation; cybersecurity; the sharing of relevant, situational testing information; labor and employment issues that may be affected by the deployment of HAVs; the impact of the development and deployment of HAVs

on the environment; protection of consumer privacy and security of information collected by HAVs; and, cabin safety for HAV passengers.

The legislation requires NHTSA to undertake a rulemaking requiring all new passenger motor vehicles weighing less than 10,000 pounds gross vehicle weight to be equipped with a system to alert the operator to check rear designated seating positions after the vehicle motor is deactivated by the operator. This legislation requires NHTSA to evaluate and initiate a rulemaking regarding safety standards or performance requirements for motor vehicle headlamps that would improve the performance of headlamps and improve overall safety.

III. STAFF CONTACTS

If you have any questions regarding this hearing, please contact Paul Nagle, Melissa Froelich, Bijan Koochmaraie, or Paul Jackson of the Committee staff at (202) 225-2927.