

COALITION FOR
FUTURE MOBILITY
CoalitionForFutureMobility.com

March 13, 2019

Honorable Frank Pallone
Chairman, Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Greg Walden
Ranking Member, Energy and Commerce
2322 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Jan Schakowsky
Chairwoman, CPAC Subcommittee
2367 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Ranking Member, CPAC Subcommittee
1035 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Chairman Pallone, Ranking Member Walden, Chairwoman Schakowsky, and Ranking Member Rodgers:

In 2017, 10,874 lives were lost due to drunk driving. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the crashes that caused these deaths were part of the 94% of all vehicle crashes that are due to human choice or error.

The Coalition for Future Mobility, a diverse, multi-stakeholder group representing auto manufacturers, suppliers, repairers, technology and communications companies, mobility providers, state and city governments, safety and national security groups, consumers, seniors, persons with disabilities, and others, writes to underscore the critical role automated vehicles (AVs) could play in reducing the number of lives lost due to drunk, drugged, distracted, and otherwise impaired driving.

The current federal regime, which was established before AVs came about, risks stymieing the timely roll-out of this life-saving technology. We hope that the details uncovered at this hearing serve as a solemn reminder that the status quo of driving fatalities cannot be considered acceptable, and encourage you to work on taking up legislation that promotes safely developing and deploying automated vehicle technology without delay.

Further information on the potential benefits of AV technology and bipartisan AV legislation can be found on the attached letter dated February 26, 2019. We at CFM look forward to working with you to help address the scourge of drunk driving, as well as many of the other causes of the loss of life on U.S. roadways.

The Coalition for Future Mobility

Enclosure

February 26, 2019

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-230, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
S-221, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader McCarthy, Senate Majority Leader McConnell, and Minority Leader Schumer:

Roughly two years ago, the Coalition for Future Mobility – a group of key stakeholders that represents a wide cross section of auto manufacturers, suppliers, repairers, technology companies, mobility providers, state and local governments, safety and national security groups, consumers, seniors, and persons with disabilities – was created to highlight the critical need for a federal framework that allows for the safe development, testing, and deployment of automated vehicles (AVs) here in the United States. We write to thank those Members of Congress who were involved in working to pass AV legislation in the 115th Congress and urge you to continue those efforts this year. Without question, Congress is uniquely suited to help provide greater clarity regarding both state and federal authorities that can help when it comes to the safe testing, development, and deployment of AV technologies.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has found that human choice or error is a factor in approximately 94% of all motor vehicle crashes on U.S. roads – crashes that took the lives of over 37,000 men, women, and children in 2017. By facilitating technology that can potentially eliminate these bad choices and unintentional errors, we can help prevent many crashes from happening and dramatically reduce injuries and fatalities on our roadways.

While safety is a critical component in the drive for the development of AVs, these vehicles can also provide life-changing opportunities for those who are not adequately served by current mobility options, such as seniors, persons with disabilities, and those who require more affordable transportation. Further, the benefits of these vehicles extend to other roadway users. Large-scale AV implementation could also mean less congestion and greater efficiency on our roads.

Last Congress, both the House of Representatives and the Senate recognized the importance of providing a federal framework for AVs. The House of Representatives passed the bipartisan SELF DRIVE Act (H.R. 3388) without a vote in opposition. Shortly after the House acted, the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation unanimously passed

similar legislation. In spite of strong, bipartisan support, legislation was unable to receive floor consideration in the Senate. Our coalition encourages you and your colleagues to redouble your efforts to move forward with legislation that will help improve safety, provide a tech-neutral path forward for private industry to innovate, and ensure clarity for regulators at all levels of government.

The status quo should not be acceptable. Recognizing the potential of this technology to positively impact millions of Americans, we urge you to support a federal AV framework this Congress. Our Coalition members stand ready to work with you.

3M

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Alliance for Transportation Innovation

Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers

American Council of the Blind

American Highway Users Alliance

American Network of Community Options and Resources

Americans for Tax Reform

Aptiv

Argo AI, LLC

Aurora

Automotive Service Association

Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International

Association of Global Automakers

Competitive Enterprise Institute

CTIA

Digital Liberty

Harman

Mobileye

Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association

Narcolepsy Network

National Association of Manufacturers

National Cued Speech Association

National Federation of the Blind

National Taxpayers Union

R Street Institute

Securing America's Future Energy

Segs4Vets

Telecommunications Industry Association

Third Way

U.S. Pan Asian American Chamber of Commerce

U.S. Tire Manufacturers

Via

What3Words

Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America

cc: All Members of the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senators