

February 6, 2020

The Honorable Frank Pallone Chairman U.S. House Committee on Energy & Commerce Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Greg Walden Ranking Member U.S. House Committee on Energy & Commerce Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Janice Schakowsky
Chair, Subcommittee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
U.S. House Committee on Energy & Commerce
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Consumer Protection & Commerce U.S. House Committee on Energy & Commerce Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Pallone, Ranking Member Walden, Subcommittee Chair Schakowsky, Subcommittee Ranking Member McMorris Rodgers and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce:

As the Chief Government Affairs Officer for Intel Corporation, I am writing on behalf of Intel to applaud your Committee's leadership in the bipartisan, bicameral process to develop a self-driving car bill that advances U.S. leadership in safe testing and deployment of automated vehicles – and ensures that Americans gain the life-saving and mobility-enhancing benefits of this transformative technology.

Intel supports prioritizing safety; ensuring a competitive, level playing field among industry stakeholders; modernizing regulations to support technology neutral, performance-based technical standards for automated vehicle (AV) testing and deployment; and ensuring a consistent regulatory and operational environment to enable AVs to operate seamlessly across the nation. We thank

leaders in the House Energy and Commerce Committee for recognizing the importance of these principles in an AV legislative and regulatory framework.

Intel appreciates the bipartisan, bicameral discussions among Members of Congress and the inclusive process with stakeholders. At the core of these discussions, we believe that safety is the fundamental basis upon which all AV policy should be built.

Specifically, we believe it is important for industry to collaborate on a technology neutral, transparent, performance-based model and test procedure for automated driving system (ADS) safety decision making, in partnership with USDOT-NHTSA and/or global standards bodies. We also encourage Congress to consider initially prioritizing exemptions for Mobility-as-a-Service (MaaS) fleet operations, to increase consumer trust and facilitate a more controlled and predictable initial deployment of AVs in the U.S. Key learnings from robotaxi deployments will offer beneficial insight for government and industry, prior to broad deployment of series-production passenger cars. Intel believes that this two-phase exemption process reflects the most likely reality for AV deployment (taking into account the current cost of a self-driving system, oversight/compliance, and geographic scale) – and will help build the public trust necessary to ultimately deploy AVs at scale across the U.S.

For America to remain at the forefront of AV innovation, policymakers must ensure an environment for ADS technology to advance. Clarity and certainty of regulatory roles are crucial to spur investment in the U.S., amid the global race among nations to lead in this sector. Absent federal clarity, the current patchwork of regulations creates uncertainty, which hinders economies of scale, as well as ADS and AV investment and deployment in America. In short, Intel supports preserving the existing clear delineation of traditional federal, state, and local roles for motor vehicle regulation in the context of AVs.

Having invested nearly four years on AV legislative discussions, public and private sector stakeholders understand what issues need to be resolved to chart a safe and collaborative path forward for U.S. AV leadership. We urge all parties to reach agreement expeditiously, as any further delay could adversely impact U.S. innovation, investment and deployment opportunities and unnecessarily cede ground to global markets and competitors.

Intel has appreciated the opportunity to engage with you on AV legislation from the beginning, and we are excited to be enabling this life-saving technology with our partners across the AV marketplace. Thank you for your ongoing efforts which will ensure American leadership in the safe testing and deployment of this transformative technology.

Sincerely

Jeff Rittener

CC:

Chief Government Affairs Officer and Vice President, Government, Markets & Trade Intel Corporation

U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce