

Opening Statement for Robert E. Latta
**Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce hearing entitled, “AV:
Promises and Challenging of Evolving Automotive Technologies.”**
February 11, 2020

As Prepared for Delivery

Thank you, Ranking Member Rodgers, for yielding, and thank you to Chairwoman Schakowsky for holding this important hearing.

Self-driving cars are the way of the future and will revolutionize our nation’s roadways. Three years ago, as Chairman of this subcommittee, I began the process to legislate on self-driving cars. We took over 300 meetings before drafting a bill that found the right balance of encouraging innovation and implementing federal guidance where appropriate. Congress’ role isn’t just to ensure the United States is a leader in the development of autonomous vehicles – Congress must act to provide Americans with safer vehicles so that we can better prevent accidents and loss of life on our roads.

Self-driving cars will make Americans safer and give mobility and independence to seniors and individuals with disabilities. These are just a few of the reasons why the SELF DRIVE Act was so significant, and why it was passed out of the House in 2017.

I am pleased to see this Committee continuing to focus on this critical issue and urge the Chairwoman to swiftly consider bipartisan AV legislation.

Before yielding back, I would like to offer for the record a letter from C_TEC supporting our bipartisan efforts to advance self-driving vehicle legislation.

Thank you.

