

June 26, 2017

1919 S. Eads St.
Arlington, VA 22202
703-907-7600
CTA.tech

Chairman Bob Latta
Committee on Energy and Commerce;
Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Latta;

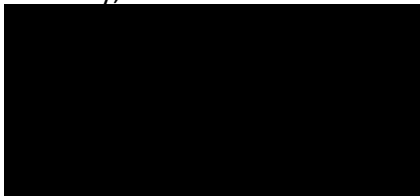
The Consumer Technology Association (CTA)™ would like to thank the Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection Subcommittee for its leadership in proposing policies to support the advancement of self-driving vehicles and for holding this important legislative hearing.

CTA is the trade association representing the entrepreneurs, technologists and innovators molding the future of the consumer technology industry. Our more than 2,200 member companies include many working to transform the safety and efficiency of the driving experience through automated driving technologies and assisted and self-driving cars. These advances are changing our lives for the better: leading to expanded mobility, increased fuel efficiency, reduced traffic congestion and, above all, enhanced safety on our nation's roads and highways.

The subcommittee's discussion draft legislation addresses several key issues that will ensure the safe and rapid testing and deployment of these lifesaving technologies. As you know, one of the biggest challenges facing the development and implementation of these technologies is the growing patchwork of legislation and regulation across the country. To that end, CTA appreciates the draft legislation's clear direction about the proper roles of State and Federal governments in regulating self-driving cars. This is essential in creating consistency for companies testing and deploying this technology, while ensuring interstate use of these innovations is the norm rather than the exception. The adoption of the SAE J3016 definitions in the text also provides for a technology neutral approach and further ensures clarity. Additionally, we support the legislation increasing the number and length of time for exemptions for innovative self-driving safety features, as well as an expansion of eligibility to permit on-road testing of prototype vehicles by vehicle equipment manufacturers and technology companies.

We look forward to continuing to work with the subcommittee on this legislation as it advances. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,



Gary Shapiro
President and CEO