

Hello, and Thank You Char Read and members of the committee for this opportunity to speak on behalf of Oregon's motorcyclists relating to HB 2428.

For the record, my name is Paula Leslie, Legislative Director for BikePAC of Oregon, Inc. We represent Oregon's motorcyclists here in the beautiful state of Oregon.

We are here to neither support or oppose this bill, but rather, bring motorcycle safety into the discussion, as you consider the safety issues related to this bill.

According to Consumer Watch Dog News:

California's SB 1298 directs the Department of Motor Vehicles to write regulations covering robot cars by January 2015, but the Legislature didn't require a certain named brand of autonomous vehicle to come back for final approval before the driverless cars go from testing stage to the car lot. The law, written by Sen. Alex Padilla, provides no real privacy protections, and has some safety considerations that NHITSA says must be addressed.

On the privacy issue, the law gives the user no control over what data that will be gathered, or how the information will be used.

From a collision/safety perspective, we have concerns about our body shops preparedness for the future, as technology continues to change. Will they have the ability to invest in both their staff and equipment? Without ongoing training and more sophisticated tools that will be required to repair these types of vehicles? We're concerned that a large number of poorly repaired autonomous cars will end up on Oregon's roadways, thus putting *not just motorcyclists, but all road users at higher risk for collisions and fatalities.*

Here's an operating explanation from one of the autonomous vehicle designers, on how it will respond at an intersection:

When coming to an intersection without a traffic light, This autonomous cars yield the right of way according to traffic laws. But if other drivers don't take their appropriate turns, the car moves forward slightly, then watches for a reaction. If it determines that the other driver still won't move, it takes the initiative.

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Oregon's motorcyclists have provided us with the following questions relating to their safety, while sharing the road with this car.

1. What does a malfunction look like, and who would be liable, should this vehicle be involved in an accident?
2. Who would be responsible for regaining control during a malfunction, if the driver is unaware, or physically unable to control the car?
3. What if a motorcyclist or bicyclist has to make a quick decision to dart in front of one of these cars, to escape some worse hazard. How quickly would this vehicle be able to respond in time to avoid the rider?
4. While test driving this vehicle, what protection measures will be in place to protect the public?

BikePAC of Oregon, Inc. would like to ask for your careful consideration of motorcycle riders, while addressing the safety ramifications of this, and any future multi modal related legislation, by placing a little motorcyclist on your shoulder, that whispers in your ear...“What about motorcycles?”

Thank You Chair Read and members of the committee, for this opportunity to include motorcycle safety in this discussion. We look forward to future collaborating with you to help us seek out ways to safely “Share the Road” and help motorists and computers now, to... “Check Twice for Motorcycles”.

Testimony provided by Paula Leslie
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