

Senate Bill 620

Sponsored by Senator GELSER; Representatives BARNHART, NEARMAN

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Establishes process for certifying manufacturers for purposes of testing, selling or operating autonomous vehicles on highways of state. Prescribes vehicle and operator requirements for autonomous vehicles.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to autonomous vehicles.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. Sections 2 to 8 of this 2015 Act are added to and made a part of the Oregon**
5 **Vehicle Code.**

6 **SECTION 2. Definitions. As used in sections 2 to 8 of this 2015 Act:**

7 (1) **"Autonomous system" means a system that enables the operation of a motor vehicle**
8 **without the active physical control of, or monitoring by, a human operator.**

9 (2) **"Autonomous vehicle" means a motor vehicle equipped with an autonomous system.**

10 (3) **"Manufacturer" means a person that builds or sells autonomous vehicles or a person**
11 **that installs autonomous systems in motor vehicles not originally built as autonomous ve-**
12 **hicles.**

13 **SECTION 3. Certificate of approval. (1) A manufacturer of autonomous vehicles may test**
14 **autonomous vehicles on the highways of this state and sell autonomous vehicles for opera-**
15 **tion on the highways of this state only if the manufacturer has been certified by the De-**
16 **partment of Transportation.**

17 (2) **A manufacturer of autonomous vehicles may apply to the department for certification**
18 **under this section. The application shall be in the form prescribed by the department by rule.**
19 **The application must establish that:**

20 (a) **The autonomous vehicle and the autonomous system meet all requirements of section**
21 **4 of this 2015 Act; and**

22 (b) **The autonomous vehicle will be operated only in accordance with section 5 of this 2015**
23 **Act.**

24 (3) **The department shall adopt rules for the testing, sale and operation of autonomous**
25 **vehicles under sections 2 to 8 of this 2015 Act. The rules shall establish standards for**
26 **equipment used in autonomous systems, and for the performance of autonomous vehicles,**
27 **that the department determines are necessary to ensure the safe operation of autonomous**
28 **vehicles, on the highways of this state. The rules may include, but need not be limited to,**
29 **limits on the number of autonomous vehicles that may be tested or operated at any given**
30 **time on the highways of this state, special license requirements for operators of autonomous**
31 **vehicles and criteria for revocation, suspension or denial of an application or certification**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 under this section.

2 (4) A manufacturer of autonomous vehicles shall submit proof of liability insurance with
3 an application made under this section. The insurance policy must be for an amount not less
4 than \$5 million.

5 (5) The department may certify a manufacturer under this section only if the department
6 determines that the autonomous vehicles covered by the certification are safe to operate on
7 the highways of this state.

8 (6) The department by rule shall establish fees for applications made under this section.
9 The fees shall be in amounts adequate to pay all administrative costs incurred by the de-
10 partment in administering sections 2 to 8 of this 2015 Act.

11 **SECTION 4. Vehicle requirements.** (1) An autonomous vehicle may be tested and oper-
12 ated on the highways of this state only if:

13 (a) The autonomous vehicle has a mechanism to engage and disengage the autonomous
14 system that is easily accessible to the operator;

15 (b) The autonomous vehicle has a visual indicator inside the autonomous vehicle to in-
16 dicate when the autonomous system is engaged and when the autonomous system is disen-
17 gaged;

18 (c) The autonomous vehicle has a failure alert system to notify the operator when a
19 system failure is detected;

20 (d)(A) The failure alert system allows the operator to take immediate manual control of
21 the autonomous vehicle when a failure of the autonomous system or other emergency is
22 detected; or

23 (B) The failure alert system stops the autonomous vehicle if the operator does not or
24 cannot take immediate manual control of the autonomous vehicle when a failure of the au-
25 tonomous system or other emergency is detected; and

26 (e) The failure alert system allows the operator to take immediate manual control of the
27 autonomous vehicle in more than one manner, including but not limited to using the brake,
28 the accelerator or the steering wheel.

29 (2) An autonomous vehicle may be operated on the highways of this state only if the
30 autonomous vehicle and its autonomous system meet the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety
31 Standards for its model year and all other applicable safety standards and performance re-
32 quirements established by state and federal law.

33 (3) An autonomous vehicle may be operated on the highways of this state only if the
34 autonomous vehicle has a system that captures and stores the autonomous system sensor
35 data for the autonomous vehicle for at least 30 seconds before a collision can occur. The data
36 system described in this subsection must store data in a read-only format for a minimum
37 of three years after the date of a collision.

38 **SECTION 5. Operator requirements.** An autonomous vehicle may be tested and operated
39 on the highways of this state only if:

40 (1) The operator possesses the proper class of license for the type of autonomous vehicle
41 being tested or operated; and

42 (2) The operator is in the driver's seat of the autonomous vehicle, is monitoring the op-
43 eration of the autonomous vehicle and is capable of taking immediate manual control of the
44 autonomous vehicle in the event of a failure of the autonomous system or other emergency.

45 **SECTION 6. Mandatory disclosure by manufacturer of autonomous vehicle.** The man-

1 manufacturer of an autonomous vehicle shall provide a written disclosure to a retail purchaser
2 of the autonomous vehicle that describes the information that will be collected by the au-
3 tonomous system in the autonomous vehicle and any potential use of that information that
4 may be made by the manufacturer or other persons.

5 **SECTION 7. Liability of manufacturer.** If an autonomous system is installed in a motor
6 vehicle that was not designed and built as an autonomous vehicle, the person that manu-
7 factured the motor vehicle is not liable to any person for injury or death resulting from a
8 failure of the subsequently installed autonomous system.

9 **SECTION 8. Applicability.** Sections 2 to 8 of this 2015 Act do not apply to a motor vehicle
10 solely by reason that the motor vehicle has systems for collision avoidance, electronic blind
11 spot assistance, automated emergency braking, park assist, adaptive cruise control, lane
12 keep assist, lane departure warning or other similar systems that enhance safety or assist
13 drivers but that are not capable of operating the motor vehicle without the active control
14 or monitoring of a human operator.

15 **SECTION 9. Captions.** The section captions used in this 2015 Act are provided only for
16 the convenience of the reader and do not become part of the statutory law of this state or
17 express any legislative intent in the enactment of this 2015 Act.

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