



February 27, 2018

RE: HB 4063 A with A8 - Autonomous Vehicle Task Force

Hello SubCommittee On Transportation and Economic Development members,

I have been involved with Autonomous Vehicle technology for more than a year now. In that time, my office and our LPRO staff have conducted research and facilitated a Work Group on Autonomous Vehicles co-chaired with Rep. Vial. From everything I have learned in the last 13 months, I now know that we need to accelerate these conversations to better prepare for this technology.

HB 4063 A would create a formal Task Force on Autonomous Vehicles, consisting of 26 members and supported by the Oregon Department of Transportation. That task force would submit a two reports to the Legislature by 9/15/2018 and 9/15/2019, and it would sunset on 1/2/2021. I worked closely with the Governor's Office, ODOT, and other stakeholders on this concepts. Of the more than 40 members involved in the work group, only one member takes issue with HB 4063 A. For full disclosure, the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers does not want cyber security to be a required topic for the task force to take on. Myself and other stakeholder disagree.

I understand there are cost containing efforts to limit task forces, and I agree that we must think critically if a task force is necessary. However, I know that it is in this case. My work group with Rep. Vial, we noticed a few limitations. First, we had a hard time engaging industry. Second, we ran into staff capacity issues. My staff worked tirelessly last Session, but they had limited time to devote to research and facilitation. We had help from Tim Walker and then Patrick Brennan, but their other LPRO and LFO duties limited the time they could give to the work group.

I know ODOT has been doing this research. They have has internal workgroups and engaged stakeholders. They have the capacity to absorb this work, hence the minimal fiscal impact. I truly believe this task force will lead to a better policy product. The formality of the task force will increase stakeholder engagement. The resources within ODOT will help with the facilitation. AV technology will be here before we know it, Oregon must be prepared.

I respectfully ask that you move this bill. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Representative Susan McLain
House District 29

