

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Transportation

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4085

Autonomous vehicles do not belong on our roads. Please do not permit autonomous vehicles to drive themselves anywhere within the state of Oregon.

If state law permits autonomous vehicles, it MUST also allow local jurisdictions to PROHIBIT them. Autonomous vehicles are expected to, by the nature of their programming, be able to avoid areas prohibited to them. If they function as intended, it should be easy for them to recognize routes and regions where they are not allowed. Local jurisdictions of any size or nature must be allowed to require that live human beings with valid drivers licenses be at the controls of any vehicle moving under its own power within their jurisdiction.

As a live human being, I am required to renew my driver's license at least every ten years. I am required to renew my vehicle's registration every two years. Autonomous driving units must be subject to renewal requirements no less strenuous than living drivers and the non-autonomous machines they drive.

New drivers, and elderly drivers, are subject to proficiency testing in order to be permitted to drive in Oregon. New autonomous vehicles must be subject to local testing (ie: the Oregon DMV) before being allowed to drive in Oregon. Each autonomous vehicle must be subject to retesting as it ages. Think about your personal experience with electronics: how long has your cell phone or laptop computer been able to function before exhibiting signs of wear, and failing? Just as we send vehicles through DEQ testing every two years to monitor the competency of their emissions equipment, autonomous vehicles must be subject to testing at intervals not less than every two years to ensure the competency of their sensors and programs.