

Testimony against HB 4085

It is clear to me while reading HB 4085 that the State is attempting to fast-track autonomous vehicles. It is also clear to me that this measure has no regard for the common person's privacy and continues the government's descent into a technological police state.

HB 4085 removes any right of local municipalities to control how and when autonomous vehicles are operated in their jurisdictions. It also makes no attempt to regulate what tech companies can do with the video and audio footage they capture. Oregon continues to disappoint as we continue to see camera tracking systems such as Flock be installed across the state. Not regulating the 360-degree cameras on these vehicles is a direct path to these tech companies selling every piece of data they scrape, video, and otherwise capture to the highest bidder.

HB 4085 also provides a path to exempt autonomous vehicle manufacturers and owners from any and all state requirements under ORS chapter 815 or 816. I'm not sure why the state would want to grant autonomous vehicles that ability to not have safety features such as seat belts and headlights. But clearly whoever is paying for this bill wants to be able to race to the bottom on safety standards for autonomous vehicles.

I question who is financially backing this measure and its sponsors. You clearly do not have the public's best interest in mind.