STATE OF NEW YORK

2234--A

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 12, 2017

Introduced by Sen. JACOBS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Transportation -- recommitted to the Committee on Transportation in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to direct a study and report on the testing and operation of autonomous vehicles on public highways

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Autonomous vehicle committee. (a) There is hereby created the autonomous vehicle committee which shall guide the enactment of an autonomous vehicle study to assess the future of autonomous vehicle technology. For purposes of this act, "autonomous vehicle" shall mean a motor vehicle that has the capability to drive the vehicle without the active control or monitoring of a human operator.

(b) The autonomous vehicle committee shall consist of at least eight members:

(1) The executive deputy commissioner of the department of motor vehicles, or his or her designee, who shall serve as chair;

(2) A representative of the autonomous vehicle industry who shall be appointed by the temporary president of the senate;

(3) A representative of highway user groups who shall be appointed by the governor;

(4) A representative of regional transportation agencies who shall be appointed by the speaker of the assembly;

(5) The chair of the assembly transportation committee, or his or her designee;

(6) The chair of the senate transportation committee, or his or her designee;

(7) A representative of the civic community who shall be appointed by the governor;

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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(8) A representative of transit advocates who shall be appointed by the governor; and

(9) Any other stakeholders identified by the department of motor vehicles.

(c) The autonomous vehicle committee shall study how to support the testing and operation of autonomous vehicles on public highways. It shall take all of the following into consideration:

(1) The measures necessary to successfully implement autonomous vehicles, including any legislative changes.

(2) Difficulties and liabilities that could arise by allowing autonomous vehicles on public highways.

(3) How autonomous vehicle technology can promote research and development in this state.

(4) Any other issue the committee deems relevant.

§ 2. Report. (a) On or before January 1, 2021, the committee shall report its findings and recommendations to the governor and the legislature. Such report shall include recommendations and such legislative proposals as shall be deemed necessary.

(b) Prior to the completion of such report, the commissioner of the department of transportation and the executive deputy commissioner of the department of motor vehicles are authorized and directed to take such actions as are necessary to support the testing and operation of autonomous vehicles on public highways.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.