

STATE OF NEW YORK

4280

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 1, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. RODRIGUEZ, HUNTER, LUPARDO -- read once and referred to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT establishing the New York task force on automated vehicle technology; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon the expiration thereof

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

1 Section 1. Legislative findings. The Legislature finds that automated
2 vehicle technology offers widely anticipated and revolutionary potential
3 for the transportation sector. Among the unprecedented opportunities
4 offered by this technology are inclusive mobility options to benefit
5 disadvantaged, disabled and elderly residents; as congestion and emis-
6 sions mitigation; improved livable land use, and basic road. Further,
7 the legislature has amended section 2 of part FF of chapter 55 of the
8 laws of 2017, relating to motor vehicles equipped with autonomous vehi-
9 cle technology, as amended by section 2 of part H of chapter 58 of the
10 laws of 2018, as amended by section 1 of part M of chapter 58 of the
11 laws of 2019, to allow for a two-year testing program for automobile
12 manufacturers and technology leaders to test and demonstrate automated
13 vehicle technology in New York, which will expire and be deemed repealed
14 April 1, 2021. Consequently, the legislature finds that there is a
15 pressing need for policymakers to study automated vehicle technology and
16 formulate comprehensive laws and regulations to ensure the state is
17 prepared for the safe deployment of automobiles equipped with this tech-
18 nology and to help prepare the state's role in a future where automated
19 vehicle technology plays in shaping our roadways, economy, education
20 system, and society.

21 To this end, it is in the public interest to establish an automated
22 vehicle task force that shall study, evaluate and develop recommenda-
23 tions relating to specific actionable measures that address how auto-

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

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1 mated vehicle technology will transform the state's roadways, economy,
2 education system, and society.

3 § 2. Automated vehicle task force. The New York task force on auto-
4 mated vehicle technology is hereby established to study and assess the
5 future of automated vehicle technology. For purposes of this act,
6 "automated vehicle" shall mean a motor vehicle that has the capability
7 to drive the vehicle without the active control or monitoring of a human
8 operator. Such task force shall consist of seventeen members with demon-
9 strated expertise in issues relating to the work of the task force. The
10 members of the task force shall be appointed as follows:

11 (a) five members shall be appointed by the governor, such member's
12 expertise shall encompass, but not be limited to, the topic areas of
13 transportation, research and development, education, people with disa-
14 bilities; one of such member shall be the commissioner of the department
15 of motor vehicles and shall serve as chairperson of the task force; and
16 one member shall be the commissioner of the department of transportation
17 and shall serve as vice chair;

18 (b) two members shall be appointed by the temporary president of the
19 senate;

20 (c) two members shall be appointed by the speaker of the assembly;

21 (d) one member shall be appointed by the senate minority leader;

22 (e) one member shall be appointed by the assembly minority leader;

23 (f) one member shall be appointed by the chancellor of the state
24 university of New York; such member shall be a member of a research
25 faculty of an engineering department at a state university of New York
26 campus;

27 (g) one member shall be appointed by the commission on independent
28 colleges and universities from a New York private university research
29 faculty of an engineering department;

30 (h) two such appointees shall be representatives of differing original
31 equipment manufacturers;

32 (i) one member shall be appointed by the president of AFL-CIO; and

33 (j) one member shall be appointed by the New York state business coun-
34 cil.

35 § 3. All appointments shall be made no later than the thirtieth day
36 after the effective date of this section. Vacancies in the membership of
37 the task force shall be filled in the same manner provided for by the
38 original appointments. The task force shall organize as soon as practi-
39 cable following the appointment of its members. The chairperson shall
40 appoint a secretary who shall not be a member of the task force. The
41 members of the task force shall receive no compensation for their
42 services.

43 § 4. The task force shall study, evaluate and develop recommendations
44 relating to specific actionable measures that address how automated
45 vehicle technology will transform the state's roadways, economy, educa-
46 tion system and society. The automated vehicle task force shall study
47 how to support the safe testing, deployment and operation of automated
48 vehicle technology on public highways. It shall take all of the follow-
49 ing into consideration: (a) the measures necessary to successfully
50 implement automated vehicles, including any legislative changes; (b) the
51 difficulties and liabilities that could arise by allowing automated
52 vehicles on public highways; (c) how automated vehicle technology can
53 promote research and development in this state; and (d) any other issue
54 the committee deems relevant.

55 § 5. The task force shall be entitled to request and receive, and
56 shall utilize such facilities, resources and data of any court, depart-

1 ment, division, board, bureau, commission or agency of the state or any
2 political subdivision thereof as it may reasonably request to properly
3 carry out its powers and duties.

4 § 6. In carrying out its functions, the task force shall hold five
5 public hearings around the state to foster discussions among, and
6 conduct formal public hearings with requisite public notice to solicit
7 input and recommendations from statewide and regional stakeholder inter-
8 ests.

9 § 7. The task force shall report its findings and recommendations to
10 the governor, the temporary president of the senate and the speaker of
11 the assembly on or before April first, two thousand twenty-one.

12 § 8. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be
13 deemed repealed 2 years after such date.