



UNITED FOR
AUTONOMY



American Council
of the Blind
Together for a bright future



U.S. Chamber of Commerce



February 3, 2026

The Honorable Ted Cruz, Chair

The Honorable Maria Cantwell, Ranking Member

United States Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation

Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Cruz and Ranking Member Cantwell:

Our organizations are members of the [United for Autonomy](#) coalition, which has come together in recognition of the significant benefits that autonomous vehicles (AVs) will bring the American public and to encourage policymakers to set in place a federal policy framework on AVs.

We commend the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, & Transportation for its upcoming hearing entitled, “Hit the Road, Mac: The Future of Self-Driving Cars.” We appreciate the Committee using this hearing as an opportunity to kick off its process for drafting federal autonomous vehicle legislation. Congressional action this year on the surface transportation reauthorization presents an incredible opportunity to legislate regarding autonomous vehicles and promote American leadership. We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity.

It is imperative that the United States create a federal policy framework on AVs. In recent years, U.S. states have set the pace on AV policy and it is long past time for the federal government to

establish federal policy that supports safe autonomous deployment. We believe that such a framework will help ensure that millions of Americans are able to access the benefits of autonomous vehicles, which provide safer roads, greater supply chain resilience, and create new economic and enhanced accessibility opportunities for people with disabilities.

Autonomous vehicles have [driven](#) more than 145 million autonomous miles on U.S. public roads, a distance equivalent to the distance between Earth and Mars. These vehicles undertake diverse operations, carrying passengers across major U.S. cities like Phoenix, Austin, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, assisting with transit access in rural communities in the Midwest, filling in middle mile cargo roles in Arkansas, and hauling freight across Texas and beyond.

By prioritizing federal AV legislation, the Committee will help the United States remain the global leader AVs amidst fierce competition with the People's Republic of China. China is the United States's closest strategic competitor on autonomous vehicles and determined to replace the U.S. A strong federal policy framework will allow U.S. companies to compete and win.

AV legislation should promote safety, accessibility for people with disabilities, supply chain resiliency, and cybersecurity protections. We believe that strong policy measures in these areas will lay the foundation for years of growth and allow U.S. companies to lead the pack in developing standards and practices worldwide.

Thank you again for holding this critical hearing. We look forward to engaging with members of the Committee throughout the legislative process.

Sincerely,

Alliance for Automotive Innovation

American Council of the Blind

ACES

American Trucking Associations

Autonomous Vehicle Industry Association

Bay Area Council

Blinded Veterans Association

Chamber of Progress

Consumer Technology Association

Contra Costa Transportation Authority

Intelligent Transportation Society of America

Institute for Safer Trucking

MEMA. The Vehicle Suppliers Association

National Association of Manufacturers

National Venture Capital Association

National Retail Federation

Paralyzed Veterans of America

Reason Foundation

Road Safe America

TechNet

Truck & Engine Manufacturers Association

United for Autonomy

United Spinal Association

U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Zero Emission Transportation Association

CC: Members of the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, & Transportation