

March 3, 2026

Reps. Jon Koznick and Brad Tabke, Chairs of the Transportation Finance & Policy Committee
75 Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Blvd,
Saint Paul, MN 55155

RE: HF3513 could support needs of people with disabilities

Members of the Transportation Finance & Policy Committee:

I am writing to you today as a proud Minnesotan, a veteran of the United States Navy, and the president of the Patriotic Kenny Foundation. My journey has been defined by service—first to our nation and now to my fellow veterans who face the isolating challenges of limited mobility. It is from this perspective of service and advocacy that I offer my full support for the expansion and integration of autonomous vehicle technology in our state, as outlined in HF 3513.

During my service in the Navy, I learned a crew is only as strong as its ability to move together. Today, my mission through the Patriotic Kenny Foundation is to ensure that no veteran is left stranded. We have seen firsthand how restoring a person's mobility, whether through the 170+ scooters we have donated or new transportation technology, can fundamentally change lives.

Mobility is not just about moving from point A to point B; it is about dignity, independence, and the elimination of isolation. Having personally experienced autonomous vehicles in Phoenix, I am convinced of their potential to serve our community, particularly those who can no longer drive themselves. These vehicles could provide a reliable, safe way to attend medical appointments at the VA, visit family, and remain active in the community without relying on overstretched caregivers.

When people can move, they can participate. AVs bridge the gap for those who live in areas where traditional public transit may not reach, ensuring that every citizen—regardless of age or physical ability—can contribute to our state's vibrant culture.

In the Navy, we looked out for one another. As a state, we have that same responsibility. By supporting the safe and thoughtful rollout of autonomous vehicles, you are not just supporting "tech"—you are supporting the veteran who wants to go to the grocery store on his own and the grandmother who wants to see her grandkids' hockey game.

I have seen the future of mobility in other states. Let's make sure Minnesota leads the way in bringing that light to everyone who needs it with the passing of HF 3513.

With honor and gratitude,



Kenneth "Patriotic Kenny" Jary
U.S. Navy Veteran
President, Patriotic Kenny Foundation