

H.F. 1996

As introduced

Subject Automated vehicle testing

Authors Elkins and others

Analyst Matt Burress (matt.burress@house.mn)

Date March 18, 2019

Overview

This bill authorizes automated vehicle testing by permit on public roads. It sets permit application and approval requirements, sets out minimum vehicle capabilities, establishes a misdemeanor penalty, provides for data practices, and directs reporting to the legislature.

Summary

Section Description

1 Automated driving system.

Defines "automated driving system" for the chapter of statutes on traffic regulations, to be technology that allows a vehicle to be tested without any control or monitoring by a human.

2 Federal motor vehicle safety standard automated vehicle exemption.

Defines "federal motor vehicle safety standard automated vehicle exemption" for the chapter of statutes on traffic regulations.

3 Highly automated vehicle.

Defines "highly automated vehicle" for the chapter of statutes on traffic regulations. Among the conditions, the vehicle must be capable of functioning without a person present in the vehicle.

4 Minimal risk condition.

Defines "minimal risk condition" for the chapter of statutes on traffic regulations.

5 **Operator.**

Defines "operator" for the chapter of statutes on traffic regulations, so that it includes someone who is testing a highly automated vehicle or engages the vehicle's automated driving system.

Section Description

6 [Adds § 174.46] Automated vehicle testing.

Authorizes and sets requirements for testing automated vehicles.

- **Subd. 1. Permit required.** Mandates a permit in order to engage an automated driving system on public roads.
- **Subd. 2. License and vehicle registration.** Provides an exemption from driver's license requirements for a vehicle that cannot be operated directly by a person. Requires a person to be able to assume control of a commercial vehicle.
- **Subd. 3. Permit to test.** Sets requirements for testing permits, including on application information, approval from the Department of Public Safety, coordination with local authorities as appropriate, and permit denials.
- **Subd. 4. Restrictions.** Sets conditions and required capabilities of highly automated vehicles and operators, including possession of a permit, capability to meet traffic regulations, and continuous monitoring.
- **Subd. 5. Collision reporting and data.** Provides for communications and reporting related to highly automated vehicle collisions.
- **Subd. 6. Compliance with laws; misdemeanor; public safety.** Sets a misdemeanor penalty for highly automated vehicle testing without a permit. Provides for preventing continued use of a highly automated vehicle.
- **Subd. 7. Data; reporting.** Clarifies data classifications. Requires annual reporting to the legislature on testing activities and any collisions.
- **Subd. 8. Uniform laws.** Prevents conflicting or more restrictive regulation of highly automated vehicles and automated driving systems.



Minnesota House Research Department provides nonpartisan legislative, legal, and information services to the Minnesota House of Representatives. This document can be made available in alternative formats.

www.house.mn/hrd | 651-296-6753 | 600 State Office Building | St. Paul, MN 55155