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American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators

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AAMVA Joins State and Local Leadership to Support Senate AV START Act

Joining the National Governors Association (NGA), the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), and numerous other leading state and local transportation officials, AAMVA has signed on to a [letter of support](#) describing the key successes and challenges associated with the Senate "American Vision for Safety Transportation through Advancement of Revolutionary Technologies Act" ([AV START Act](#)). The coalition cites the preference of the Senate language for numerous reasons, including the fact that "the AV START Act's approach appropriately establishes federal preemption by prescribing subject matters specifically to those contained in a safety evaluation report, thereby preserving the historic federal partnership with state and local governments."

Through this coalition, state and local leaders continue to work toward a clear definition of the term "performance" as it relates to automated vehicle safety. While the term has been used in context throughout its application to federal motor vehicle safety standards, it becomes more complex due to the merger of the mechanics of the vehicle and the operation of that vehicle. Because elements of preemption will prescribe oversight of vehicle design *and performance* aspects to federal authorities, state and local leaders feel it is essential there is a clear understanding of how the term applies to both design safety features and operational safety features of vehicles that are expected to act as both traditional mechanical vehicles and complex decision-making systems.

This collaborative effort provides the United States Congress with a unified message from state and local leadership on the direction of automated vehicles. Further, it provides for continued partnership between all levels of government as Congress works to define the legal framework for this life-saving and transformative technology. AAMVA continues to engage this issue on behalf of its members and looks forward to continued collaboration with key stakeholders as the legislation continues through the deliberative process.

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Government Affairs Questions

For questions about AAMVA's Government Affairs, please contact Cian Cashin at ccashin@aamva.org



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