

HOUSE BILL 148

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025

INTRODUCED BY

Dayan Hochman-Vigil

AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; ENACTING THE AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE ACT; PROVIDING SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE OPERATION OF AUTONOMOUS MOTOR VEHICLES ON PUBLIC HIGHWAYS; REQUIRING THAT A HUMAN OPERATOR BE PHYSICALLY PRESENT BEHIND THE WHEEL OF AN OPERATING AUTONOMOUS MOTOR VEHICLE PRIOR TO 2036; PROVIDING REQUIREMENTS FOR A HUMAN OPERATOR OF AN AUTONOMOUS MOTOR VEHICLE; REQUIRING TESTING AND SAFETY PLANS; PROVIDING AUTONOMOUS MOTOR VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS; LIMITING THE OPERATION OF AUTONOMOUS COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES ON PUBLIC ROADWAYS; PROVIDING FOR AUTONOMOUS MOTOR VEHICLE INCIDENT REPORTING; PROVIDING A COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE ENDORSEMENT FOR DRIVING AN AUTONOMOUS COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE; ADDING INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR AUTONOMOUS MOTOR VEHICLES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

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1 SECTION 1. Section 66-1-4.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1990,
2 Chapter 120, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

3 "66-1-4.1. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Motor Vehicle
4 Code:

5 A. "abandoned vehicle" means a vehicle or motor
6 vehicle that has been determined by a New Mexico law
7 enforcement agency:

8 (1) to have been left unattended on either
9 public or private property for at least thirty days;

10 (2) not to have been reported stolen;

11 (3) not to have been claimed by any person
12 asserting ownership; and

13 (4) not to have been shown by normal record-
14 checking procedures to be owned by any person;

15 B. "access aisle" means a space designed to allow a
16 person with a significant mobility limitation to safely exit
17 and enter a motor vehicle that is immediately adjacent to a
18 designated parking space for persons with significant mobility
19 limitation and that may be common to two such parking spaces of
20 at least sixty inches in width or, if the parking space is
21 designed for van accessibility, ninety-six inches in width, and
22 clearly marked and maintained with blue striping and, after
23 January 1, 2011, the words "NO PARKING" in capital letters,
24 each of which shall be at least one foot high and at least two
25 inches wide, placed at the rear of the access aisle so as to be

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1 close to where an adjacent vehicle's rear tires would be
2 placed;

3 C. "actual empty weight" means the weight of a
4 vehicle without a load;

5 D. "additional place of business", for dealers and
6 auto recyclers, means locations in addition to an established
7 place of business as defined in Section 66-1-4.5 NMSA 1978 and
8 meeting all the requirements of an established place of
9 business, except Paragraph (5) of Subsection C of Section
10 66-1-4.5 NMSA 1978, but "additional place of business" does not
11 mean a location used solely for storage and that is not used
12 for wrecking, dismantling, sale or resale of vehicles;

13 E. "alcoholic beverages" means any and all
14 distilled or rectified spirits, potable alcohol, brandy,
15 whiskey, rum, gin, aromatic bitters or any similar alcoholic
16 beverage, including all blended or fermented beverages,
17 dilutions or mixtures of one or more of the foregoing
18 containing more than one-half percent alcohol but excluding
19 medicinal bitters;

20 F. "authorized emergency vehicle" means any fire
21 department vehicle, police vehicle and ambulance and any
22 emergency vehicles of municipal departments or public utilities
23 that are designated or authorized as emergency vehicles by the
24 director of the New Mexico state police division of the
25 department of public safety or local authorities;

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1 G. "autocycle" means a three-wheeled motorcycle on
2 which the driver and all passengers ride in a completely or
3 partially enclosed seating area and that is manufactured to
4 comply with all applicable federal standards, regulations and
5 laws and is equipped with:

- 6 (1) non-straddle seating;
- 7 (2) rollover protection;
- 8 (3) safety belts for all occupants;
- 9 (4) antilock brakes;
- 10 (5) a steering wheel; and
- 11 (6) pedals;

12 H. "automated driving system" means the hardware
13 and software that are collectively capable of performing the
14 entire dynamic driving task on a sustained basis, regardless of
15 whether it is limited to a specific operational design domain;
16 "automated driving system" is used specifically to describe a
17 level three, four or five driving automation system as defined
18 in society of automotive engineers standard J3016, as published
19 in the Taxonomy and Definitions for Terms Related to Driving
20 Automation Systems for On-Road Motor Vehicles;

21 I. "automated driving system manufacturer" means a
22 person or entity that originally manufactures a vehicle and
23 equips the vehicle with an automated driving system or, in the
24 case of a vehicle not equipped with an automated driving system
25 by its original manufacturer, a person or entity that converts

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1 the vehicle into an autonomous motor vehicle by equipping it
2 with an automated driving system;

3 ~~[I.]~~ J. "autonomous commercial motor vehicle" means
4 a commercial motor vehicle, as defined in Subsection J of
5 Section 66-1-4.3 NMSA 1978, that is being controlled by an
6 automated driving system;

7 K. "autonomous disengagement" means the
8 deactivation of a vehicle's automated driving system while it
9 is operating:

10 (1) because of a failure or error of the
11 automated driving system;

12 (2) when the safe operation of the vehicle
13 requires a driver or remote operator to take manual control of
14 the vehicle;

15 (3) when a human operator or an autonomous
16 motor vehicle operator is prompted to take control of the
17 vehicle; or

18 (4) in any other instance in which the
19 automated driving system is deactivated due to a malfunction,
20 degradation or inability of the automated driving system;

21 ~~[J.]~~ L. "autonomous motor vehicle" means a motor
22 vehicle that is being controlled by an automated driving
23 system;

24 ~~[K.]~~ M. "autonomous motor vehicle operator" means
25 the person who engages the automated driving system of an

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1 autonomous motor vehicle or autonomous commercial motor
2 vehicle;

3 ~~[L-]~~ N. "autonomous motor vehicle testing" or
4 "autonomous commercial motor vehicle testing" means activities
5 taken in full or in part to evaluate and assess:

6 (1) the automated driving system's performance
7 of the dynamic driving task; and

8 (2) the automated driving system's performance
9 with respect to applicable safety areas as defined by the
10 ~~[federal]~~ national highway traffic safety administration for
11 autonomous vehicle operations; ~~[and]~~

12 O. "autonomous vehicle incident" means a crash,
13 near-crash, collision with a vehicle, person or object,
14 near-collision, autonomous disengagement, traffic violation,
15 unplanned stop or other failure of an automated driving system;
16 and

17 ~~[M-]~~ P. "auto recycler" means a person engaged in
18 this state in an established business that includes acquiring
19 vehicles that are required to be registered under the Motor
20 Vehicle Code for the purpose of dismantling, wrecking,
21 shredding, compacting, crushing or otherwise destroying
22 vehicles for reclaimable parts or scrap material to sell."

23 SECTION 2. Section 66-1-4.5 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1990,
24 Chapter 120, Section 6, as amended) is amended to read:

25 "66-1-4.5. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Motor Vehicle
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1 Code:

2 A. "electric-assisted bicycle" means a vehicle
3 having two or three wheels, fully operable pedals and an
4 electric motor. Electric-assisted bicycles are classified as
5 follows:

6 (1) "class 1 electric-assisted bicycle" means
7 an electric-assisted bicycle equipped with a motor not
8 exceeding seven hundred fifty watts of power that provides
9 assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to
10 provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of twenty
11 miles per hour;

12 (2) "class 2 electric-assisted bicycle" means
13 an electric-assisted bicycle equipped with a motor not
14 exceeding seven hundred fifty watts of power that provides
15 assistance regardless of whether the rider is pedaling but
16 ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed
17 of twenty miles per hour; and

18 (3) "class 3 electric-assisted bicycle" means
19 an electric-assisted bicycle equipped with a motor not
20 exceeding seven hundred fifty watts of power that provides
21 assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to
22 provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of twenty-
23 eight miles per hour;

24 B. "electric mobility device" means a two- or
25 three-wheel vehicle with an electric motor for propulsion that

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1 does not meet the definition of an electric-assisted bicycle
2 and is capable of exceeding a speed of twenty miles per hour on
3 motor power alone;

4 C. "electric personal assistive mobility device"
5 means a self-balancing device having two nontandem wheels
6 designed to transport a single person by means of an electric
7 propulsion system with an average power of one horsepower and
8 with a maximum speed on a paved level surface of less than
9 twenty miles per hour when powered solely by its propulsion
10 system and while being ridden by an operator who weighs one
11 hundred seventy pounds;

12 D. "electronic credential" means an electronic
13 extension of the department-issued physical credential that
14 conveys identity and driving privilege information;

15 E. "electronic credential system" means a digital
16 process that includes a method for loading electronic
17 credentials onto a device, issuing electronic credentials,
18 requesting and transmitting electronic credential data elements
19 and performing tasks to maintain the system;

20 F. "essential parts" means all integral and body
21 parts of a vehicle of a type required to be registered by the
22 provisions of the Motor Vehicle Code, the removal, alteration
23 or substitution of which would tend to conceal the identity of
24 the vehicle or substantially alter its appearance, model, type
25 or mode of operation;

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1 G. "established place of business", for a dealer or
2 auto recycler, means a place:

3 (1) devoted exclusively to the business for
4 which the dealer or auto recycler is licensed and related
5 business;

6 (2) identified by a prominently displayed sign
7 giving the dealer's or auto recycler's trade name used by the
8 business;

9 (3) of sufficient size or space to permit the
10 display of one or more vehicles or to permit the parking or
11 storing of vehicles to be dismantled or wrecked for recycling;

12 (4) on which there is located an enclosed
13 building on a permanent foundation, which building meets the
14 building requirements of the community and is large enough to
15 accommodate the office or offices of the dealer or auto
16 recycler and large enough to provide a safe place to keep the
17 books and records of the dealer or auto recycler;

18 (5) where the principal portion of the
19 business of the dealer or auto recycler is conducted and where
20 the books and records of the business are kept and maintained;
21 and

22 (6) where vehicle sales are of new vehicles
23 only, such as a department store or a franchisee of a
24 department store, as long as the department store or franchisee
25 keeps the books and records of its vehicle business in a

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1 general office location at its place of business; as used in
2 this paragraph, "department store" means a business that offers
3 a variety of merchandise other than vehicles, and sales of the
4 merchandise other than vehicles constitute at least eighty
5 percent of the gross sales of the business; ~~and~~

6 H. "evidence of financial responsibility" means
7 evidence of the ability to respond in damages for liability, on
8 account of accidents occurring subsequent to the effective date
9 of the evidence, arising out of the ownership, maintenance or
10 use of a vehicle of a type subject to registration under state
11 laws; and

12 ~~[H.]~~ I. "explosives" means any chemical compound or
13 mechanical mixture that is commonly used or intended for the
14 purpose of producing an explosion and that contains any
15 oxidizing and combustive units or other ingredients in such
16 proportions, quantities or packing that an ignition by fire,
17 friction, concussion, percussion or detonator of any part of
18 the compound or mixture may cause such a sudden generation of
19 highly heated gases that the resultant gaseous pressures are
20 capable of producing destructive effects on contiguous objects
21 or of destroying life or limb."

22 SECTION 3. Section 66-1-4.8 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1990,
23 Chapter 120, Section 9, as amended) is amended to read:

24 "66-1-4.8. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Motor Vehicle
25 Code:

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1 A. "hazardous material" means a substance or
2 material in a quantity and form that may pose an unreasonable
3 risk to health, safety or property when transported in
4 commerce;

5 B. "highway" or "street" means every way or place
6 generally open to the use of the public as a matter of right
7 for the purpose of vehicular travel, even though it may be
8 temporarily closed or restricted for the purpose of
9 construction, maintenance, repair or reconstruction;

10 C. "historic or special interest vehicle" means a
11 vehicle of any age that, because of its significance, is being
12 collected, preserved, restored or maintained by a collector as
13 a leisure pursuit;

14 D. "horseless carriage" means a motor vehicle at
15 least thirty-five years old that is owned as a collector's item
16 and used solely for exhibition and educational purposes; ~~and~~

17 E. "house trailer" means a manufactured home; and

18 F. "human operator" means, with regard to an
19 autonomous motor vehicle, the person who is seated in the
20 driver's seat of the vehicle, or, if there is no person in the
21 driver's seat, the person who causes the automated driving
22 system to engage."

23 SECTION 4. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code,
24 Section 66-3A-1 NMSA 1978, is enacted to read:

25 "66-3A-1. [NEW MATERIAL] SHORT TITLE.--Chapter 66,
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1 Article 3A NMSA 1978 may be cited as the "Autonomous Vehicle
2 Act".

3 SECTION 5. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code,
4 Section 66-3A-2 NMSA 1978, is enacted to read:

5 "66-3A-2. [NEW MATERIAL] OPERATION OF AUTONOMOUS MOTOR
6 VEHICLES--HUMAN OPERATOR--PROHIBITIONS--EXCEPTIONS.--

7 A. Prior to 2036, an autonomous motor vehicle shall
8 not be operated on a public highway in New Mexico unless a
9 human operator is physically present behind the steering wheel
10 of the vehicle, the human operator has the ability at all times
11 to take immediate control of the vehicle and the human
12 operator:

13 (1) has the proper driver's license
14 classification and all proper endorsements required for the
15 type of vehicle being operated, including, for an autonomous
16 commercial motor vehicle, a license endorsement authorizing
17 operation of such a vehicle pursuant to Paragraph (9) of
18 Subsection D of Section 66-5-65 NMSA 1978;

19 (2) is competent to operate the vehicle and
20 the automated driving system; and

21 (3) for an autonomous commercial motor
22 vehicle, is an employee, contractor or other person designated
23 by the automated driving system manufacturer.

24 B. An autonomous motor vehicle shall not be
25 operated in autonomous mode and a human operator shall take

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1 control of the vehicle:

2 (1) when the vehicle is required by law to
3 yield to an emergency vehicle or school bus;

4 (2) within a school zone or a construction
5 zone;

6 (3) within any area designated for parking at
7 a public park, playground, school, library, swimming facility
8 or other sports facility; or

9 (4) outside of the operating conditions
10 approved by the department of transportation in its statement
11 of approval issued pursuant to Subsection B of Section 66-3A-3
12 NMSA 1978.

13 C. The operation of an autonomous commercial motor
14 vehicle on a public highway in New Mexico is prohibited except
15 for the purposes of testing performed in accordance with the
16 requirements of the Autonomous Vehicle Act until and unless
17 operation for purposes other than testing has been approved by
18 rule of the national highway traffic safety administration."

19 SECTION 6. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code,
20 Section 66-3A-3 NMSA 1978, is enacted to read:

21 "66-3A-3. [NEW MATERIAL] AUTONOMOUS MOTOR VEHICLES--
22 REQUIREMENTS FOR OPERATION ON PUBLIC HIGHWAY.--

23 A. An autonomous motor vehicle shall not be
24 operated on a public highway in New Mexico unless the owner,
25 operator or automated driving system manufacturer:

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1 (1) provides certification to the department
2 of transportation that the make and model of vehicle being
3 tested or operated has been operated in autonomous mode with
4 the same automated driving system for at least ten thousand
5 miles without incident and provide supporting data to the
6 department of transportation; and

7 (2) submits a plan that is approved by the
8 department of transportation in the manner and form required by
9 that department. In addition to any other requirements that
10 the department of transportation adopts by rule, the plan
11 shall:

12 (a) describe how the owner or operator
13 of the vehicle will minimize safety risks to other road users;

14 (b) describe the operating conditions
15 and geographical locations where the testing will be conducted;
16 and

17 (c) demonstrate that the vehicle is
18 capable of operating in those conditions with limited human
19 intervention.

20 B. The department of transportation shall review
21 plans submitted pursuant to pursuant to Paragraph (2) of
22 Subsection A of this section and issue a statement of approval
23 only upon a finding that the requirements of that paragraph
24 have been met and the operating conditions described in the
25 plan do not present an unreasonable risk of harm to pedestrians

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1 and other motorists."

2 SECTION 7. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code,
3 Section 66-3A-4 NMSA 1978, is enacted to read:

4 "66-3A-4. [NEW MATERIAL] AUTONOMOUS MOTOR VEHICLES--
5 VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS.--An autonomous motor vehicle shall not be
6 operated on a public highway in New Mexico unless the vehicle:

7 A. has a mechanism that records and stores data
8 from the vehicle's sensors, including sensors for the automated
9 driving system. On the occurrence of an autonomous vehicle
10 incident or a malfunction, error, failure or degraded state of
11 operation by the automated driving system, the mechanism shall
12 capture, store and preserve for three years the sensor data
13 starting at least thirty seconds before and capturing the
14 entirety of the autonomous vehicle incident or malfunction,
15 error, failure or degraded state of operation;

16 B. is equipped with an inward- and outward-facing
17 dashboard camera that automatically records video footage of
18 any autonomous vehicle incident and stores the footage for no
19 less than three years;

20 C. has a visual indicator in the cabin to indicate
21 when the automated driving system is engaged;

22 D. has a mechanism to safely alert the human
23 operator of a failure of the automated driving system;

24 E. allows the human operator of the vehicle to take
25 control of the vehicle in multiple, safe and simple manners;

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1 and

2 F. if the vehicle is an autonomous commercial motor
3 vehicle, has a valid department of transportation number and
4 current operating authority as a motor carrier to perform
5 testing of autonomous commercial motor vehicles. Any testing
6 of that vehicle shall be under that operating authority."

7 SECTION 8. Section 66-7-12 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2021,
8 Chapter 114, Section 7) is recompiled as Section 66-3A-5 NMSA
9 1978 and is amended to read:

10 "66-3A-5. AUTONOMOUS MOTOR VEHICLES--NOTIFICATION AND
11 REGULATION OF TESTING.--

12 A. Prior to testing an autonomous motor vehicle [~~or~~
13 ~~an autonomous commercial motor vehicle~~] on a public highway in
14 New Mexico, a person owning or operating [~~such a~~] the motor
15 vehicle shall notify the department of transportation at least
16 five calendar days in advance of such operation on a form
17 provided by rule by the department of at least the following
18 information:

19 (1) the serial number and type of each motor
20 vehicle to be tested;

21 (2) the routes to be used by the motor
22 vehicles;

23 (3) the level of automated driving systems to
24 be used by the motor vehicles; and

25 (4) such additional information as may be

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1 required by the department of transportation by rule.

2 B. The department of transportation shall
3 promulgate rules regarding the notification and regulation
4 process provided for in Subsection A of this section, including
5 forms to be used and information to be submitted by operators
6 of autonomous motor vehicles and autonomous commercial motor
7 vehicles when testing such motor vehicles on public highways in
8 New Mexico."

9 SECTION 9. Section 66-7-13 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2021,
10 Chapter 114, Section 8) is recompiled as Section 66-3A-6 NMSA
11 1978 and is amended to read:

12 "66-3A-6. AUTONOMOUS MOTOR VEHICLES--STANDARDS--LOCAL
13 REGULATION.--

14 A. Autonomous motor vehicles [~~and autonomous~~
15 ~~commercial motor vehicles~~] shall meet all applicable state and
16 federal motor vehicle safety standards and performance
17 requirements. Additionally, autonomous motor vehicles and
18 autonomous commercial motor vehicles shall [~~be capable of being~~
19 ~~operated~~] at all times operate in compliance with applicable
20 traffic and motor vehicle laws in New Mexico.

21 B. With regard to an autonomous motor vehicle
22 operated in the state, the performance of a safety system
23 required by state or federal law or regulation or the overall
24 safety of the vehicle shall not be disabled or degraded.

25 [~~B.~~] C. No political subdivision of the state may,

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1 by ordinance, resolution or any other means, prohibit the
2 testing or operation of an autonomous motor vehicle or
3 autonomous commercial motor vehicle within the jurisdictional
4 boundaries of the political subdivision solely on the basis of
5 the motor vehicle being equipped with an automated driving
6 system."

7 SECTION 10. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code,
8 Section 66-3A-7 NMSA 1978, is enacted to read:

9 "66-3A-7. [NEW MATERIAL] AUTONOMOUS MOTOR VEHICLES--
10 COLLISION, INJURY OR DAMAGE--REPORTING--AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE
11 INCIDENT.--

12 A. The owner or operator of an autonomous motor
13 vehicle shall submit a report to the department of
14 transportation on January 1 and July 1 of every year that
15 details all autonomous vehicle incidents by the vehicle. The
16 report shall include the total number of collisions, rate of
17 collisions, total employees, change in employees since the
18 owner or operator began operating an autonomous motor vehicle
19 and, for an autonomous vehicle incident:

- 20 (1) the date, time and location;
21 (2) the vehicle identification number or other
22 identifying information if a vehicle identification number is
23 not available;
24 (3) general facts and circumstances of the
25 incident, including the number of passengers, passenger

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1 interactions, injuries, property damage, road conditions,
2 traffic and weather conditions and interactions with other road
3 users or obstacles;

4 (4) a detailed narrative of the incident
5 written in language that a nontechnical person can reasonably
6 understand;

7 (5) information related to the performance of
8 the autonomous driving system, including whether it was engaged
9 during or in the thirty seconds prior to the automated vehicle
10 incident, any errors, failures, malfunctions or inabilities of
11 the automated driving system, whether an autonomous
12 disengagement occurred and telematics data;

13 (6) the specific traffic law violated, if any;

14 (7) the existence of any known video footage
15 of the incident, including footage captured pursuant to Section
16 66-3A-4 NMSA 1978, the footage of which shall be submitted with
17 the report; and

18 (8) other information required by the
19 department of transportation.

20 B. If an autonomous motor vehicle or autonomous
21 commercial motor vehicle is involved in a collision on a public
22 road that results in property damage, bodily injury to a person
23 or the death of a person, the owner or operator of the vehicle
24 shall report the collision to the department of transportation
25 within forty-eight hours of the collision.

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1 C. By December of each year beginning in 2026, the
2 department of transportation shall submit a report to the
3 interim legislative committee that studies transportation. The
4 report shall evaluate the performance and impact of autonomous
5 motor vehicles on public safety and employment, including a
6 summary of the autonomous disengagements, autonomous vehicle
7 incidents, impact on transportation sector employees and a
8 recommendation on whether the legislature should modify
9 autonomous motor vehicle statutes."

10 **SECTION 11.** Section 66-5-65 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1989,
11 Chapter 14, Section 14, as amended) is amended to read:

12 "66-5-65. CLASSIFICATIONS--ENDORSEMENTS--RESTRICTIONS.--

13 A. Commercial driver's licenses may be issued with
14 the classifications, endorsements and restrictions enumerated
15 in Subsections B, C and D of this section, provided that the
16 applicant has passed the knowledge and skills test required by
17 the department. The holder of a valid commercial driver's
18 license may drive all vehicles in the class for which that
19 license is issued and all lesser classes of vehicles except
20 motorcycles and vehicles that require an endorsement, unless
21 the proper endorsement appears on the license.

22 B. The following classifications shall apply to
23 commercial driver's licenses:

24 (1) class A - any combination of vehicles with
25 a gross combination weight rating of more than twenty-six

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1 thousand pounds, if the gross vehicle weight rating of the
2 vehicle or vehicles being towed is in excess of ten thousand
3 pounds;

4 (2) class B - any single vehicle with a gross
5 vehicle weight rating of more than twenty-six thousand pounds
6 and any such vehicle towing a vehicle with a gross vehicle
7 weight rating of ten thousand pounds or less; and

8 (3) class C - any single vehicle or
9 combination of vehicles that does not meet either the
10 definition of Paragraph (1) or (2) of this subsection but is:

11 (a) designed to transport sixteen or
12 more passengers, including the driver; or

13 (b) used in the transportation of
14 hazardous materials, which requires the vehicle to be placarded
15 under applicable law.

16 C. The secretary, by regulation, may provide for
17 classifications in addition to those set forth in Subsection B
18 of this section.

19 D. The following endorsements and restrictions
20 shall apply to commercial driver's licenses:

21 (1) "H" - authorizes driving a vehicle
22 transporting hazardous material;

23 (2) "L" - restricts the driver to vehicles not
24 equipped with airbrakes;

25 (3) "T" - authorizes driving a vehicle towing

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1 more than one trailer;

2 (4) "P" - authorizes driving vehicles, other
3 than school buses, carrying passengers;

4 (5) "N" - authorizes driving tank vehicles;

5 (6) "X" - represents a combination of the
6 hazardous material ("H") and tank vehicle ("N") endorsements;

7 (7) "S" - authorizes driving a school bus;

8 [~~and~~]

9 (8) "K" - restricts the driver to driving a
10 commercial motor vehicle in intrastate commerce only; and

11 (9) "AV" - authorizes driving an autonomous
12 commercial motor vehicle.

13 E. The department shall require an applicant
14 requesting a hazardous material ("H") endorsement to be subject
15 to a background check pursuant to the federal Uniting and
16 Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required
17 to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001. Information
18 received pursuant to a background check required by the federal
19 transportation security administration of the department of
20 homeland security shall be kept confidential and shall be
21 released only to the subject of the background check and the
22 division. Fees charged for the background check shall be borne
23 by the subject of the background check or by the employer.

24 F. The department shall promulgate rules governing
25 the prerequisites for an applicant to receive the endorsement

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1 authorized by Paragraph (9) of Subsection D of this section,
2 which shall, at minimum, include certification to the
3 department by an automated driving system manufacturer or the
4 manufacturer's designated representative that the applicant has
5 successfully completed a training course provided by that
6 manufacturer or the manufacturer's designated representative."

7 SECTION 12. Section 66-5-208 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978,
8 Chapter 35, Section 282, as amended) is amended to read:

9 "66-5-208. EVIDENCE OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY--AMOUNTS
10 AND CONDITIONS.--Evidence of financial responsibility [~~as used~~
11 ~~in the Mandatory Financial Responsibility Act, means evidence~~
12 ~~of the ability to respond in damages for liability, on account~~
13 ~~of accidents occurring subsequent to the effective date of the~~
14 ~~evidence, arising out of the ownership, maintenance or use of a~~
15 ~~vehicle of a type subject to registration under the laws of New~~
16 ~~Mexico~~] shall be in the following amounts:

17 A. twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) because
18 of bodily injury to or death of one person in any one accident;

19 B. subject to this limit for one person, fifty
20 thousand dollars (\$50,000) because of bodily injury to or death
21 of two or more persons in any one accident;

22 C. ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) because of injury
23 to or destruction of property of others in any one accident;

24 [~~and~~]

25 D. if evidence is in the form of a surety bond or a

.228593.1

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 cash deposit, the total amount shall be sixty thousand dollars
2 (\$60,000);

3 E. for an autonomous motor vehicle, one hundred
4 fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) because of death, bodily
5 injury and property damage; and

6 F. for an autonomous commercial motor vehicle, five
7 million dollars (\$5,000,000) because of death, bodily injury
8 and property damage."

9 SECTION 13. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the
10 provisions of this act is January 1, 2026.