

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2970**

65th Legislature  
2018 Regular Session

Passed by the House March 3, 2018  
Yeas 90 Nays 6

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**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 1, 2018  
Yeas 48 Nays 0

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**President of the Senate**

Approved

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2970** as passed by House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

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**Chief Clerk**

FILED

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2970**

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AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2018 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      65th Legislature                      2018 Regular Session**

**By** House Transportation (originally sponsored by Representatives Hudgins, Morris, Kloba, and Muri)

READ FIRST TIME 02/06/18.

1            AN ACT Relating to the establishment of an autonomous vehicle  
2 work group; adding a new section to chapter 47.01 RCW; creating a new  
3 section; and providing an expiration date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    A new section is added to chapter 47.01  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7            The commission must convene an executive and legislative work  
8 group to develop policy recommendations to address the operation of  
9 autonomous vehicles on public roadways in the state, subject to the  
10 availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose.

11            (1)(a)(i) Executive branch membership of the work group must  
12 include, but is not limited to: The governor or his or her designee  
13 or designees, the insurance commissioner or his or her designee or  
14 designees, the director of the department of licensing or his or her  
15 designee or designees, the secretary or his or her designee or  
16 designees, the chief of the Washington state patrol or his or her  
17 designee or designees, and the director of the traffic safety  
18 commission or his or her designee or designees.

19            (ii) Executive branch membership of the work group may also  
20 include: The assistant secretary of the department of social and  
21 health services aging and long-term support administration or his or

1 her designee or designees and the deputy director of the department  
2 of enterprise services who oversees fleet operations or his or her  
3 designee or designees.

4 (b) The president of the senate shall appoint two interested  
5 members from each of the two largest caucuses of the senate. The  
6 speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint two interested  
7 members from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of  
8 representatives.

9 (c) The commission may invite additional participation on an  
10 ongoing, recurring, or one-time basis from individuals representing  
11 additional state agencies, local and regional governments, local law  
12 enforcement agencies, transit authorities, state colleges and  
13 universities, autonomous vehicle technology developers, motor vehicle  
14 manufacturers, insurance associations, network providers, software  
15 development companies, and other relevant stakeholders as  
16 appropriate.

17 (2) To prepare for the use of autonomous vehicle technology in  
18 the state, the work group, while taking into account the  
19 transportation system policy goals established in RCW 47.04.280(1),  
20 must:

21 (a) Follow developments in autonomous vehicle technology,  
22 autonomous vehicle deployment, and federal, state, and local policies  
23 that relate to the operation of autonomous vehicles, including the  
24 federal government's recommendations related to vehicle performance  
25 guidance for autonomous vehicles, model state policy, and current and  
26 possible federal regulatory tools for the regulation of autonomous  
27 vehicles. The scope of the work must include autonomous commercial  
28 vehicles, in addition to autonomous passenger vehicles;

29 (b) Explore approaches to the modification of state policy,  
30 rules, and laws to further public safety and prepare the state for  
31 the emergence and deployment of autonomous vehicle technology. Areas  
32 for consideration may include, but are not limited to, manufacturer  
33 vehicle testing, vehicle registration and titling requirements,  
34 driver's license requirements, rules of the road, criminal law,  
35 roadway infrastructure, traffic management, transit, vehicle  
36 insurance, tort liability, cybersecurity, privacy, advertising,  
37 impacts to social services, and impacts to labor and small  
38 businesses;

39 (c) Disseminate information, as appropriate, to all interested  
40 stakeholders; and

1 (d) At the direction of the legislature, engage the public  
2 through surveys, focus groups, and other such means, in order to  
3 inform policymakers for the purposes of policy development.

4 (3)(a) The commission must develop and update recommendations  
5 annually based on the input provided by the work group. By November  
6 15th of each year, the commission must provide a report to the  
7 governor and the relevant committees of the legislature that  
8 describes the progress made by the work group and the commission's  
9 recommendations.

10 (b) The recommendations made by the commission may include  
11 proposed modifications to state law and rules to address the  
12 emergence and deployment of autonomous vehicle technology in the  
13 state.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Sections 1 and 3 of this act expire  
15 December 31, 2023.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The legislature finds that autonomous  
17 vehicle technology is rapidly evolving and that the testing and  
18 deployment of this technology is advancing at a rapid pace.  
19 Washington state's policies, laws, and rules predate autonomous  
20 vehicle technology and largely have not been developed in  
21 consideration of the operation of this technology on roadways in the  
22 state. At both the federal and state level, efforts are underway to  
23 begin to establish a framework of policy guidance, laws, and rules  
24 that will organize and govern the use of autonomous vehicle  
25 technology in the United States. The legislature finds that  
26 establishing an autonomous vehicle work group, to be convened by the  
27 transportation commission, will facilitate state efforts to address  
28 the emergence of autonomous vehicle technology. It is the intent of  
29 the legislature for the transportation commission to develop  
30 recommendations for policy, laws, and rules for the operation of  
31 autonomous vehicles, with input from the autonomous vehicle work  
32 group, that enable Washington state to address the public policy  
33 changes necessitated by the emergence of this technology in an  
34 informed, thorough, and deliberate manner. This effort is required  
35 because robot cars are coming, but robot policy makers are not.

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