

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7126

To prohibit a State from issuing a motor vehicle operator’s license for the operation or use of an ADS-equipped vehicle operating at Level 4 or Level 5 in a manner that discriminates on the basis of disability.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 30, 2024

Mr. STANTON (for himself and Mr. MAST) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To prohibit a State from issuing a motor vehicle operator’s license for the operation or use of an ADS-equipped vehicle operating at Level 4 or Level 5 in a manner that discriminates on the basis of disability.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Autonomous Vehicle
5 Accessibility Act” or the “AV Accessibility Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) **DISABILITY**.—The term “disability” has the
2 meaning given the term in section 12102 of title 42,
3 United States Code.

4 (2) **PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**.—The term
5 “public transportation” has the meaning given the
6 term in section 5302 of title 49, United States Code.

7 (3) **RIDE-HAIL ADS-EQUIPPED VEHICLE**.—The
8 term “ride-hail ADS-equipped vehicle” means an
9 ADS-equipped vehicle that is—

10 (A) offered for pre-arranged transportation
11 services for compensation, using an online-en-
12 abled application or electronic platform to con-
13 nect passengers with vehicles; and

14 (B) dispatched in driverless operation.

15 (4) **SECRETARY**.—The term “Secretary” means
16 the Secretary of Transportation.

17 (5) **SAE-DEFINED TERMS**.—The terms “ADS-
18 equipped vehicle”, “dispatch”, “Level 4”, “Level 5”,
19 and “driverless operation” have the meanings given
20 such terms in the document titled SAE International
21 Recommended Practice J3016, published in April
22 2021, or by a revision of that such document subse-
23 quently adopted by the Secretary.

1 **SEC. 3. LICENSING.**

2 In accordance with title II of the Americans with Dis-
3 abilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12132), a State shall not issue
4 a motor vehicle operator's license for the operation or use
5 of an ADS-equipped vehicle operating at Level 4 or Level
6 5 in a manner that discriminates on the basis of disability
7 against a qualified individual with a disability.

8 **SEC. 4. ACCESSIBLE INFRASTRUCTURE STUDY.**

9 The Secretary shall seek to enter into an agreement
10 with the National Academies to conduct a study to—

11 (1) determine changes to public transportation
12 infrastructure that would improve the ability of indi-
13 viduals with disabilities to find, access, and use ride-
14 hail ADS-equipped vehicles, including during pickup
15 and dropoff; and

16 (2) identify options to simplify safe access of
17 ride-hail ADS-equipped vehicles, such as non-visual
18 access for individuals with disabilities, including the
19 consideration of—

20 (A) technological solutions for dynamic
21 curb management;

22 (B) sidewalk and roadway design;

23 (C) dedicated pick-up and drop-off zones;

24 (D) curb extension;

25 (E) infrastructure design; and

1 (F) other factors that can better enable in-
2 dividuals with disabilities to safely locate, enter,
3 use, and exit ride-hail ADS-equipped vehicles
4 during pickup and dropoff.

5 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

6 There is authorized to be appropriated \$5,000,000 to
7 carry out section 4, to be available until expended.

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