

March 6, 2020

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve  
Chairman, House Environment and Transportation Committee  
251 House Office Building  
Annapolis MD 21401

**Re: Letter of Information - House Bill 1464 - Vehicle Laws - Vehicle Data - Ownership and Use**

Dear Chairman Barve and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) takes no position on House Bill 1464 but offers the following information for the Committee's consideration.

House Bill 1464 defines "autonomous vehicle," establishes that the owners of the vehicle own the data collected and stored by the vehicle or a vehicle data recorder, and sets conditions for sharing of or access to that information.

MDOT is embracing Connected and Automated Vehicle (CAV) technology and is working collaboratively with many stakeholders to ensure that Marylanders benefit from a transportation system which fully realizes the many positive potential outcomes of CAV technology, while also ensuring the safety of all roadway users.

In part, this proposal limits the sharing of information utilized by CAVs. While fully 'autonomous vehicles' as defined in the bill are not likely to be available in the United States immediately, CAV technology is rapidly evolving. Some of the benefits of that technology rely on vehicles being able to share data with infrastructure and other vehicles in order to drive more efficiently and safely and utilize less roadway capacity. For example, a connected vehicle may transmit information on its speed or braking to alert connected vehicles behind it to roadway conditions. Restricting vehicle data sharing may inhibit recognizing the full safety, environmental, and infrastructure potential of CAVs.

As CAV technology is deployed to the roadway, safety and security, including protecting individuals' private information, should be the highest priority.; The CAV working group, including MDOT MVA and all stakeholders, will continue to carefully examine proposed legal frameworks that impact the ability of the future system to function appropriately and safely.

The Maryland Department of Transportation respectfully requests the Committee consider this information when deliberating House Bill 1464.

Respectfully submitted,

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