



## **S.F. No. 4381 – Establishing advisory board to study impacts of commercial autonomous vehicle operations implementation**

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This bill prohibits the operation of autonomous vehicles for commercial purposes in Minnesota until an advisory board created by this bill completes a study of potential impacts and until the Commissioner of Transportation establishes a permitting process.

**Section 1, Subdivision 1** defines terms, including “commercial autonomous vehicle operations.”

**Subd. 2** prohibits commercial autonomous vehicle operations in Minnesota until the study and permitting process established by this section have been completed.

**Subd. 3** requires the Commissioner of Transportation to establish a permitting process for commercial autonomous vehicle operations based on the recommendations of the advisory board established by this section. Requires the permitting process to include a review of every permit application by the advisory board.

**Subd. 4** establishes the Commercial Autonomous Vehicle Operations Labor and Small Business Impact Advisory Board to review permit applications and make recommendations to the Commissioner of Transportation. Provides the required composition of the advisory board. Requires the Commissioner of Transportation to provide administrative, staffing, and technical support to the advisory board.

**Subd. 5** requires the advisory board to engage an independent research institution with expertise in rideshare labor economics to conduct a comprehensive review of commercial autonomous vehicle operations and its potential for deployment in Minnesota. Establishes minimum requirements for the review. Requires the advisory board to hold public meetings to obtain testimony from rideshare drivers, commercial drivers, and members of the public. Requires a final report by February 1, 2027 that includes recommendations to the Commissioner of Transportation as to whether commercial autonomous vehicle operations

should be permitted, and what requirements should be included in the permitting process established under subdivision 3.

**Subd. 6** requires the advisory committee to evaluate every application for a commercial autonomous vehicle operations permit. Provides a list of considerations that the advisory board must evaluate for each application. Requires the advisory board to make a nonbinding recommendation regarding approval of each application to the Commissioner of Transportation.

**Subd. 7** provides that permits issued under this section must require a human safety operator to be present in any vehicle that transports passengers or goods. The human safety operator must be able to monitor the performance of the autonomous vehicle and intervene if necessary.

**Subd. 8** provides that if any part of the section is held invalid by a court, the remainder of the section remains in effect.



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