

Hi there,

I am a blind man, and cannot get to the transportation committee meeting, and one of the bills that will be discussed, is SB169, the automated vehicle bill.

I'd like this list of benefits to be included in the written testimony for all members, ok?

So, if everybody on the committee could get this written testimony, for SB169, I'd sure appreciate it!

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Harry Brown, from Port Huron

Benefits of automated vehicles

From the desk of Harry Brown

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To all on the transportation committee:

Today, before you all, is a bill that will radically, change the streets and roads of Michigan, forever, and in a great way! Today, you will all have a chance to eliminate vehicle accidents, let people travel at much faster speeds on our expressways, give mobility to all who have no mobility, and make sure that no more Michigan citizens are injured or killed in any vehicle accidents, and that, my friends, is a very important thing!

What are the benefits of these vehicles?

1. All vehicle accidents will be eliminated!
2. We will also be able to get rid of the need for bumpers, thus making the vehicles cheaper to buy, and lighter in weight!
3. These vehicles will drive through fog, blizzards, whiteouts, rain storms, smoke, etc., because humans are limited in their vision, and these vehicles won't have that limitation! The snow plows used by the Minnesota Department of Transportation, (MnDOT), already drive themselves in snow storms.
4. These vehicles will also give the elderly, and folks with disabilities independence, because more and more people are getting older, and will have sight problems, or have strokes, or other disabilities and won't be able to see, or move hands or feet to drive a car, etc. They won't want to have to buy a new car because of lack of income, so they will just have a conversion kit put on to their current vehicle by the auto dealer, or auto companies themselves, so the vehicle will drive itself. It'll save them money but still give them their much desired independence! As one man told me, "It is reassuring to know that as I age, I will not have to rely on the help of younger people for traveling. This vehicle will spare me the expense of hiring a driver!"
5. For those of us who want to get there, right now, trips in these vehicles, anywhere in north America, will take only half as much time, on our expressways, because with all vehicles being automated, we will up the speed limit, to 150 MPH, equals 240 km-h, on our expressways. I say this because the folks at Stanford, took a driverless vehicle to Utah, and let it drive, in the Utah desert, at that 150 MPH speed, with other vehicles being driven by humans in the area, and the driverless vehicle, at that speed of 150 MPH, avoided vehicles, cones, pedestrians, and did not once, lose control. It will be driving itself, therefore, vehicle highway speed, and local driving speeds will be perfectly controlled, as well as spacing between vehicles, because these vehicles will drive themselves at current local speeds as well. They will stop at intersections on local roads and streets. They will be spaced apart, so they wouldn't have to stop so suddenly.
6. People will be able to talk on a cell phone, text, reach or lean any way they want, eat, drink, shave, put on makeup, comb their hair, sleep, read, and write. People will be able to hold, and cuddle with, their children! Mothers will be able to nurse their babies, giving More time for them to bond with their babies! People will be able to tend to children in the back seat, or do other things such as adjust the radio, find

another CD to play, talk with each other inside the vehicle, send faxes, adjust the air conditioning, watch TV, do office work, surf the web, use their I Pad, text, play games, get on face book, enjoy the view outside their window, looking at the things that now distract drivers, such as:

- 1. Buildings**
- 2. Scenery**
- 3. Pedestrians**
- 4. Advertising posters**
- 5. Parked vehicles**
- 6. Clouds**

They will also be able to:

7. Listen to music with their eyes closed
8. Knit
9. Tweet, and read tweets
10. Hang out with people in their vehicle, etc., you name it.

A man from California told me, "Boy would I love to have the car drive itself, and have time to read instead. I'd be one of the first to line up to buy this!"

Notice that all those things are things that currently distract drivers and cause accidents. However, these things won't be distractions anymore, because people won't be driving the vehicle, because the vehicle will be driving itself!

This automated vehicle will eliminate all things that cause accidents which happen today!

7. No more roadway departure crashes!
8. No more rollover accidents, so, we can get rid of the roll over cage which is currently on vehicles, thus making the vehicles even cheaper to buy, and lighter to move!
9. No more rear end crashes!
10. No more lane change crashes, so, we will get rid of mirrors which currently are needed on vehicles, thus making them even cheaper to buy, lighter in weight, and faster to move!
11. No more intersection crashes!
12. No more head on collisions!
13. No more drunk driving accidents because vehicles will drive themselves, and no more arrests for drunk driving, and our county jails will be less crowded! Now folks, just think about that particular point, 2 problems eliminated!
14. No more deaths and injuries will occur, because of vehicle accidents!
15. No more SUV roll over deaths!
16. No more new roads will need to be built, because vehicles will drive themselves and avoid congestion, saving billions of dollars at the state and federal levels!
17. No more driver distractions, and no more arrests for distracted driving!
18. No more road rage, and no more arrests for road rage!
19. Driver stress will be done away with!
20. Pollution will not exist because the flow of traffic will be continuous and folks will get to their destinations *MUCH* faster!
21. Congestion on roads will no longer exist, cutting travel times in half or more!
22. No more tail gating!
23. No more problems driving with sun glare!
24. Better utilization of roads!
25. Improved traffic flow!
26. Freight will get to market 2 times faster than it does today!
27. No more delays in traffic when going from 1 place to another!
28. People will still have their independence as they have always wanted because that's why they have always bought vehicles instead of taking public transportation!

29. No protection of passengers from impact will need to be built into these vehicles, because impact from accidents won't occur, so vehicles will be even cheaper to buy, and lighter in weight!
30. Passengers won't need to wear seat belts anymore, so they won't be put into vehicles, making them even cheaper to buy, and lighter in weight!
31. Passenger safety systems inside the vehicle won't be needed, making the vehicle lighter in weight, and even cheaper to buy!
32. Hospitalization, medical, surgical, and rehabilitation costs due to vehicle accidents will cease, so, medical costs as a whole will drop dramatically!
33. Law suits over traffic accidents will be no more!
34. All people will be transported door to door!
35. There will be no more careless drivers on the roads, and no more arrests for careless driving, because the vehicles will drive themselves!
36. No more traffic jams!
37. No more construction of new roads and expressways, which so many of us complain about, thus saving billions of dollars that were in the past, budgeted for new road construction!
38. No more gridlock!
39. No more problems with drivers failing to yield the right of way, and no more arrests for failing to yield!
40. No more problems with drivers disregarding traffic signals!
41. No more problems with inattentive drivers, because the vehicles will drive themselves!
42. There won't be a need for accident riders for car insurance, because there won't be any more accidents, thus auto insurance policies will be *MUCH* cheaper, with costs for premiums dropping by 90%!
43. Because these vehicles will be automated, they will provide transportation to large and small towns regardless how bad the weather is, so, your plans will never have to be put on hold!
44. There won't be a need for volunteer drivers anymore, since vehicles themselves will drive those people who can't drive themselves!
45. There will not be a need for drivers training, because the vehicles will do the driving and not people. This will save school districts money!
46. No more hit and run accidents, because the vehicles see any pedestrians who are on the roads, and, no more arrests for hit and run!
47. No more vehicle animal accidents!
48. No more traffic arrests, so, police and sheriff's departments will be able to get rid of their traffic divisions, saving cities and counties millions of dollars!
49. Much less wear and tear on all vehicles.
50. You'll be able to save huge amounts of time in your travels!
51. No more traffic tickets!
52. Traveling will be more pleasant! So many folks have told me, "Harry, when I drive, I have to be on pins and needles, ready to slam on the brakes at anytime, because I never know what will happen next, and this way, I can just completely relax, and never have to drive again!"
53. People will be able to be much more social, because many people are home bound and can't drive today, and that number of people will be going up, as we all get older. Also, people who are fearful of driving, will be completely over that fear, because they will no longer have to do the driving, because the vehicle will do it for them!
54. One motor cyclist said, ""This is great! Left turns will be guided by radar, and not by human eyes.""
55. No more drivers racing on our expressways, local roads, and streets on the way to a destination!
56. No more blind spots when passing, or pulling out into a street or road, or pulling out into an intersection, like happens today, which causes accidents.
57. All vehicles will be going the speed limit, whether for local driving, or, on our expressways, so you won't be passing anybody that is driving under the speed limit, like happens today!

58. Traffic will always behave predictably, and not erratically, because vehicles will be automated, and not driven by human beings who drive erratically.

59. Law enforcement and other emergency personnel, will not have to devote *ANY* time dealing with traffic situations or accidents, because the vehicles will never speed, never go through a red light, never go through a stop sign, and they will never cause an accident at 4way stops, because it will know if it's clear to go or not!

60. No more accidents due to timid drivers, who are afraid to merge into high speed traffic, because the automated vehicle will do the merging for them!

61. Accidents that happen because of people blacking out, going into a diabetic shock, having a heart attack, having a stroke at the wheel, will no longer happen!

62. Since these vehicles will drive themselves, 100% of the time, we will get rid of department of motor vehicles, (DMV), because you won't need a license to drive, because the vehicle will drive, and not a human! Instead, everybody will have a state ID.

63. With this vehicle, it will not be able to be blown up by terrorists, because you, your family, and people you travel with, will be the only ones in it.

64. No more stop signs will be needed!

65. No more stoplights!

We will be able to eliminate all stoplights, and all stop signs, because at all intersections, when there are conflicting vehicles, (meaning 1 vehicle on 1 street, and another vehicle on the other street), the vehicle that gets to the intersection *first*, will have priority. All vehicles will be programmed by the auto makers to give *first priority*, to the vehicle at the intersection first. So, if your vehicle gets there first, you'll not have to stop and wait, but, if your vehicle gets there second, third, etc., your vehicle will wait to give vehicles who are there before your vehicle, the priority to go. This is called 1st arrival, 1st departure.

66. All vehicles will also know when police, fire, or EMS is coming through, and *they*, will always have priority over all vehicles. All vehicles will automatically pull over to allow the police, fire, or EMS vehicles to get through.

This vehicle cooperation will be a binding commitment between vehicles. This kind of preprogrammed commitment between vehicles will not be able to be broken. The only vehicles that will be able to go through intersections and not wait, will be fire, police, and EMS. Vehicle to vehicle communications has not yet been used to bind 2 conflicting vehicles at an intersection. That still has to be done, and testing completed. I am working with the folks at the University of Missouri at Kansas City, who are testing this technology, but it is coming!

67. No more Amtrak, saving millions of dollars, because these vehicles will drive people between places in north America, door to door!

68. We'll get rid of the federal railroad administration, saving the federal government millions of dollars. We also won't need high speed rail, or Via Rail in Canada, saving both federal governments billions of dollars.

69. No more property damage because of out of control vehicles.

70. Elimination of people becoming disabled because of being in vehicle accidents.

71. We will eliminate auto no-fault, because there will be no more auto accidents!

So, folks, you have a chance to make history, let's do it!

Sincerely,

Yours for much safer, faster, transportation

Harry Brown