



PML.org
414 North Second Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

717-236-9469
f 717-236-6716

MEMO

To: Members of the Senate Transportation Committee

From: Amy Sturges, Deputy Executive Director – Advocacy, PA Municipal League

Date: January 26, 2022

Re: SB 965 – Automated Vehicles

On behalf of the membership of the PA Municipal League, I am writing to express concern with the local preemption in SB 965. Specifically, Section 8510 broadly prohibits local policies, rules or ordinances that set standards, burden, limit, or regulate the operation of autonomous vehicles within a municipality.

The League's members are not opposed to automated vehicles (AV). However, our members believe some level of local control must be preserved. For example, local officials should be able to require notice prior to AV use on local roads. Additionally, and equally important, local authority must be preserved concerning the use of this new technology and its impact on local land use, zoning and control of the public right-of-way.

Local governments and local roads will be significantly impacted by the introduction and expansion of AV across the Commonwealth. Therefore, local government must be considered a partner with the Commonwealth in their roll-out.

As SB 965 comes before the Committee today, we ask for the Committee to work with local government to find a middle ground that will narrow the local preemption in this bill.

In its current form, the League cannot support SB 965.

Thank you for your consideration.