

Senate Bill 219

By: Senators Gooch of the 51st, Beach of the 21st, Mullis of the 53rd, Harper of the 7th and  
Watson of the 1st

**AS PASSED SENATE**

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**

**AN ACT**

1 To amend Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to motor vehicles, so  
2 as to provide for definitions; to exempt persons operating an automated motor vehicle with  
3 the automated driving system engaged from the requirement to hold a driver's license; to  
4 provide for satisfaction of requirement to notify law enforcement in certain instances of  
5 collisions by automated motor vehicles; to provide for certain equipment and insurance  
6 requirements for automated motor vehicles; to provide for registration requirements for such  
7 vehicles; to provide for exclusive jurisdiction governing such vehicles; to provide for related  
8 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

9 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

10

**SECTION 1.**

11 Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to motor vehicles, is amended  
12 in Code Section 40-1-1, relating to definitions, by revising paragraph (38) and adding three  
13 new paragraphs to read as follows:

14 "(5.1) 'Automated driving system' or 'ADS' means hardware and software that are  
15 collectively capable of performing all aspects of the dynamic driving task for a motor  
16 vehicle on a part-time or full-time basis without any supervision of, or intervention in, the  
17 dynamic driving task by a human operator. As used in this paragraph, 'dynamic driving  
18 task' means operational aspects, including steering, braking, accelerating, and monitoring  
19 of a vehicle and the roadway, and tactical aspects, including responding to events,  
20 determining when to change lanes, turning, using signals, and other related actions. The  
21 term 'dynamic driving task' does not include strategic aspects of a driving task, including,  
22 but not limited to, determining destinations or waypoints.

23 (5.2) 'Automated motor vehicle' means a motor vehicle equipped with an automated  
24 driving system."

25 "(20.1) 'Human operator' means a natural person in a motor vehicle with immediate  
26 access to controls for steering, braking, and accelerating."

27 "(38) 'Operator' means any person who drives or is in actual physical control of a motor  
 28 vehicle, or who causes an automated motor vehicle to move or travel with an automated  
 29 driving system engaged."

30

### SECTION 2.

31 Said title is further amended in Code Section 40-5-21, relating to exemptions to driver's  
 32 license requirement, by revising paragraphs (11) and (12) and adding a new paragraph to  
 33 subsection (a) as follows:

34 "(11) Any resident who is 15 years of age or over while taking actual in-car training in  
 35 a training vehicle other than a commercial motor vehicle under the direct personal  
 36 supervision of a driving instructor when such driving instructor and training vehicle are  
 37 licensed by the department in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 13 of Title 43,  
 38 'The Driver Training School License Act.' As used in the previous sentence, the term  
 39 'commercial motor vehicle' shall have the meaning specified in Code Section 40-5-142.  
 40 All vehicles utilized for the in-car training authorized under this paragraph shall be  
 41 equipped with dual controlled brakes and shall be marked with signs in accordance with  
 42 the rules of the department clearly identifying such vehicles as training cars belonging  
 43 to a licensed driving school. A driving instructor shall test the eyesight of any unlicensed  
 44 person who will be receiving actual in-car training prior to commencement of such  
 45 training, and no unlicensed driver shall receive in-car training unless such person has at  
 46 least the visual acuity and horizontal field of vision as is required for issuance of a  
 47 driver's license in subsection (c) of Code Section 40-5-27; ~~and~~

48 (12) Any person while operating a personal transportation vehicle:

49 (A) On any way publicly maintained for the use of personal transportation vehicles by  
 50 the public and no other types of motor vehicles in accordance with a local ordinance  
 51 adopted pursuant to Part 3 or 6 of Article 13 of Chapter 6 of this title; or

52 (B) When crossing a street or highway used by other types of motor vehicles at a  
 53 location designated for such crossing pursuant to subsection (d) of Code  
 54 Section 40-6-331 or pursuant to a PTV plan authorized by a local authority as described  
 55 in Part 6 of Article 13 of Chapter 6 of this title; and

56 (13) An automated motor vehicle with the ADS engaged."

57

### SECTION 3.

58 Said title is further amended by adding two new Code sections to read as follows:

59 "40-6-279.

60 Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter to the contrary, when an accident involves  
61 an automated vehicle, the requirements of subsection (a) of Code Sections 40-6-270,  
62 40-6-271, 40-6-272, 40-6-273, and 40-6-273.1 shall be deemed satisfied if the vehicle  
63 owner or a person acting on behalf of the vehicle owner, promptly contacts a local law  
64 enforcement agency to report such crash or if the automated motor vehicle has the  
65 capability of alerting a law enforcement agency to such crash."

66 "40-8-11.

67 (a) An automated motor vehicle with the automated driving system engaged may operate  
68 without a human driver physically present in the vehicle. Any person operating an  
69 automated motor vehicle with the automated driving system engaged on the highways of  
70 this state shall ensure such vehicle:

71 (1) Is capable of being operated in compliance with Chapters 6 and 8 of this title and  
72 complies with federal law, unless an exemption has been granted under applicable federal  
73 or state law; and

74 (2) Maintains motor vehicle liability coverage in an amount no less than the requirements  
75 of commercial indemnity and liability insurance for limousine carriers under Code  
76 Section 40-1-166 or self insurance under Code Section 33-34-5.1.

77 (b) Prior to operating on the highways of this state, an automated motor vehicle shall be  
78 properly registered in accordance with Code Section 40-2-20. If an automated vehicle is  
79 registered in this state, the vehicle shall be identified on the registration as an automated  
80 motor vehicle.

81 (c) No motor vehicle laws of this state shall prohibit an ADS from being the operator or  
82 driver of a motor vehicle, and no motor vehicle laws of this state shall require a licensed  
83 human driver or operator to operate a motor vehicle that is being operated by an ADS  
84 under this Code section.

85 (d) With respect to an automated motor vehicle, the requirements under Code Sections  
86 40-8-76 and 40-8-76.1 shall be the sole responsibility of human occupants of the vehicle  
87 and shall not apply to an ADS or an automated motor vehicle.

88 (e) Unless otherwise provided in this Code section, automated motor vehicles, automated  
89 driving systems, and any commercial use or operation of automated motor vehicles are  
90 governed exclusively by this Code section."

91 **SECTION 4.**

92 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.