

March 29, 2017

Honorable Lee Beyer
Chair
Senate Committee on Business and Transportation
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Honorable Chuck Thomsen
Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Business and Transportation
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Chair Beyer, Vice-Chair Thomsen, and Members of the Committee:

We, the undersigned, Volkswagen of America, Audi of America, and Daimler (the parent company of Mercedes-Benz and Freightliner Trucks) write in opposition to SB 981 and HB 3119.

SB 981 and HB 3119 clearly authorize certain SAE Level 4 and 5 automated driving systems, but fail to address SAE Level 3 automated driving systems. While we do not believe that any legislation is necessary to authorize the operation of automated driving systems in Oregon at any level, any legislation that is considered should be inclusive of all levels of automation. The inclusion of authorizing language for some, but not all, automated driving systems leaves those not clearly authorized in a gray area of uncertainty. This, in turn, places those companies who plan to market SAE Level 3 automated driving systems at a competitive disadvantage and leaves the consumers of Oregon with fewer choices.

We urge the committee to only support a bill that includes a level playing field for all automakers and high tech companies.

We are happy to discuss this further if you require additional information.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Volkswagen



Audi



Mercedes-Benz