HLS 14RS-4208 **ENGROSSED** 

Regular Session, 2014

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**HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 133** 

BY REPRESENTATIVE LEGER

MOTOR VEHICLES: Urges and requests the DOTD to study autonomous vehicles

A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to begin studying 3 and testing autonomous motor vehicles and consider the promulgation of rules for 4 the safe operation of such vehicles on the roads of the state. 5 WHEREAS, "autonomous motor vehicle" means a vehicle equipped with technology 6 that has the capability to drive the vehicle without any control or monitoring by a human 7 operator; a vehicle equipped with active safety systems or driver assistance systems, 8 including a system to provide electronic blind spot assistance, crash avoidance, emergency 9 braking, parking assistance, adaptive cruise control, lane keep assistance, lane departure 10 warning, or traffic jam and queuing assistance is not an autonomous vehicle unless the system alone or in combination with other systems enables the vehicle on which the 12 technology is installed to drive without any control or monitoring by a human operator; and 13 WHEREAS, significant advances have been made in both technology and legislation 14 relevant to autonomous motor vehicles with numerous major companies and research 15 organizations developing working prototype autonomous vehicles, including Mercedes-16 Benz, General Motors, Nissan, Toyota, Audi, Volvo, Oxford University, and Google, and 17 as of 2013, four U.S. states have passed laws permitting autonomous vehicles and such 18 vehicles could be available to the public in the next ten to twenty years; and 19 WHEREAS, autonomous vehicles could significantly reduce traffic fatalities and 20 crashes by reducing or eliminating driver error, which is a contributing factor in over ninety 21 percent of all crashes; and

- WHEREAS, autonomous vehicles could reduce congestion and improve fuel economy through better utilization of existing highway capacity and more efficient operation of the vehicle's acceleration and braking controls.
- 4 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
- 5 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Transportation and
- 6 Development to begin studying and testing autonomous motor vehicles.
- 7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation and
- 8 Development, as part of its study, determine the need for statutory authority or the
- 9 promulgation of regulations regarding the operation of autonomous motor vehicles on
- 10 roadways within the state.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of the Department of
- 12 Transportation and Development shall submit a report to the House Committee on
- 13 Transportation, Highways and Public Works and the Senate Committee on Transportation,
- Highways and Public Works recommending legislation or regulatory action that may be
- required for the safe use of autonomous vehicles prior to the final adjournment of the 2016
- Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

## **DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Leger HR No. 133

Urges and requests the DOTD to study and conduct testing of autonomous motor vehicles.

## Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on Transportation</u>, <u>Highways and Public Works</u> to the <u>original</u> bill.

- 1. Clarified that "autonomous motor vehicle" means a vehicle equipped with technology that has the capability to drive the vehicle without any control or monitoring by a human operator.
- 2. Made a technical change.
- 3. Clarified that the Department of Transportation and Development should determine need for statutory authority or the promulgation of regulations regarding the operation of autonomous motor vehicles in the state.
- 4. Removed the list of recommended regulations to be promulgated by the department.