

SB46 • Delaware

An Act To Amend Title 21 Of The Delaware Code Relating To Autonomous Vehicles.

In Committee

Risk: Medium

Amendment

Last Action (May 14, 2025): Reported Out of Committee (Transportation) in House with 1 Favorable, 5 On Its Merits

Summary

This bill mandates that autonomous vehicles requiring a Class A commercial driver license must have a human operator present during operation.

Business Impact

If you operate autonomous vehicles in Delaware, you must ensure a human safety operator is present or face fines up to \$7,500.

Key Provisions

- Defines 'autonomous technology' and 'autonomous vehicle' based on SAE levels of automation.
- Requires a human safety operator for certain autonomous vehicles during operation.
- Imposes fines for non-compliance ranging from \$1,000 to \$7,500.
- Mandates a report by the Department of Transportation on the impact of autonomous vehicles by January 1, 2030.
- Consultation with relevant departments on safety and job impacts is required.
- Clarifies that vehicles with driver assistance systems are not classified as autonomous vehicles.

Compliance Checklist

- Ensure a human safety operator is present in autonomous vehicles during operation. | Who: Operators of autonomous vehicles requiring a Class A commercial driver license. | Penalty: Fines of \$1,000 to \$7,500 for non-compliance.
- Prepare for the Department of Transportation's report on autonomous vehicle performance. | Who: Department of Transportation.

Industries Affected

Logistics

Automotive

Technology

Transportation

Topics

Autonomous Vehicles

Bill Sponsors

Name	Party	Role
Bryan Townsend	Democratic	Primary
Trey Charles Paradee	Democratic	Primary
Margaret Rose Henry		Cosponsor
Andria L. Bennett		Cosponsor
John L. Mitchell		Cosponsor
Darius J. Brown	Democratic	Primary
Kendra Johnson	Democratic	Primary
Sherry Dorsey Walker		Primary
Trey Paradee	Democratic	Primary
Cyndie Romer	Democratic	Primary
Sean Matthews		Primary
Peter C. Schwartzkopf		Primary

Roll Call Votes

Date	Description	Yea	Nay	Result
2025-03-20	2/3	18	0	Passed

Official Source

<https://legis.delaware.gov/BillDetail?LegislationId=141797>

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