By: Canales H.B. No. 3837

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

2	relating	to	the	regulation	of	autonomous	vehicles;	creating	а

- . .
- 3 criminal offense.

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- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
- 5 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
- 6 is amended by adding Section 502.0433 to read as follows:
- 7 Sec. 502.0433. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO
- 8 AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE. (a) In this section, "autonomous vehicle" has
- 9 the meaning assigned by Section 545.451.
- 10 (b) When a person registers or renews the registration of a
- 11 motor vehicle under this chapter, the department shall require the
- 12 person to:
- (1) indicate whether the vehicle is an autonomous
- 14 vehicle; and
- 15 (2) if the person indicates that the vehicle is an
- 16 autonomous vehicle, include the permit number for any permit issued
- 17 to the person under Subchapter J, Chapter 545.
- (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter,
- 19 the department may not register or renew the registration of a motor
- 20 vehicle that a person indicates is an autonomous vehicle if the
- 21 person does not hold, or the department is unable to verify that the
- 22 person holds, a permit issued under Subchapter J, Chapter 545. This
- 23 subsection does not apply to an autonomous vehicle that is exempted
- 24 from the permit requirements of Subchapter J, Chapter 545, under a

- 1 rule adopted under Section 545.457.
- 2 SECTION 2. Subchapter J, Chapter 545, Transportation Code,
- 3 is amended to read as follows:
- 4 SUBCHAPTER J. OPERATION OF AUTONOMOUS [AUTOMATED MOTOR] VEHICLES
- 5 Sec. 545.451. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:
- 6 (1) "Automated driving system" means hardware and
- 7 software that, when installed on a motor vehicle and engaged, are
- 8 collectively capable of performing, without any intervention or
- 9 supervision by a human operator:
- 10 (A) all aspects of the entire dynamic driving
- 11 task for the vehicle on a sustained basis; and
- 12 (B) any fallback maneuvers necessary to respond
- 13 to a failure of the system.
- 14 (2) "Autonomous [Automated motor] vehicle" means a
- 15 motor vehicle on which an automated driving system is installed
- 16 that is capable of being operated with Level 4 automation or Level 5
- 17 automation.
- 18 (3) "Commission" means the Autonomous Vehicle
- 19 Commission.
- 20 (4) "Entire dynamic driving task" means the
- 21 operational and tactical aspects of operating a vehicle. The term:
- 22 (A) includes:
- (i) operational aspects, including
- 24 steering, braking, accelerating, and monitoring the vehicle and the
- 25 roadway; and
- 26 (ii) tactical aspects, including
- 27 responding to events, determining when to change lanes, turning,

- 1 using signals, and other related actions; and
- 2 (B) does not include strategic aspects,
- 3 including determining destinations or waypoints.
- 4 (5) [(4)] "Human operator" means a natural person in
- 5 an autonomous [automated motor] vehicle who controls the entire
- 6 dynamic driving task.
- 7 (6) "Level 4 automation" means a standard of
- 8 <u>automation meeting the criteria for Level 4 specified in the</u>
- 9 Society of Automotive Engineers International Standard J3016
- 10 (April 2021).
- 11 (7) "Level 5 automation" means a standard of
- 12 automation meeting the criteria for Level 5 specified in the
- 13 Society of Automotive Engineers International Standard J3016
- 14 (April 2021).
- 15 (8) [(5)] "Owner" has the meaning assigned by Section
- 16 502.001.
- 17 (9) "Transportation network company" has the meaning
- 18 assigned by Section 2402.001, Occupations Code.
- 19 Sec. 545.452. EXCLUSIVE REGULATION OF [THE] OPERATION OF
- 20 AUTONOMOUS [AUTOMATED MOTOR] VEHICLES AND AUTOMATED DRIVING
- 21 SYSTEMS. (a) Unless otherwise provided by this subchapter, the
- 22 operation of autonomous [automated motor] vehicles, including any
- 23 commercial use, and automated driving systems \underline{is} [are] governed
- 24 exclusively by:
- 25 (1) this subchapter; [and]
- 26 (2) Section 547.618; and
- 27 (3) Chapter 2402, Occupations Code, if the autonomous

- 1 vehicle is owned by a transportation network company or
- 2 transportation network company driver.
- 3 (b) A political subdivision of this state or a state agency
- 4 may not impose a franchise or other regulation related to the
- 5 operation of an autonomous [automated motor] vehicle or automated
- 6 driving system.
- 7 Sec. 545.453. OPERATOR OF AUTONOMOUS [AUTOMATED MOTOR]
- 8 VEHICLE. (a) When an automated driving system installed on an
- 9 autonomous [a motor] vehicle is engaged:
- 10 (1) the owner of the <u>autonomous vehicle</u> [automated]
- 11 <u>driving system</u>] is considered the operator of the <u>autonomous</u>
- 12 [automated motor] vehicle solely for the purpose of assessing
- 13 compliance with applicable traffic or motor vehicle laws,
- 14 regardless of whether the person is physically present in the
- 15 vehicle while the vehicle is operating; and
- 16 (2) the automated driving system is considered to be
- 17 licensed to operate the vehicle.
- 18 (b) Notwithstanding any other law, a licensed human
- 19 operator is not required to operate a motor vehicle if an automated
- 20 driving system installed on the vehicle is engaged.
- 21 Sec. 545.454. <u>AUTONOMOUS</u> [AUTOMATED MOTOR] VEHICLE
- 22 OPERATION; OFFENSE. (a) Subject to Subsection (b), an autonomous
- 23 [An automated motor] vehicle may operate in this state [with the
- 24 automated driving system engaged], regardless of whether a human
- 25 operator is physically present in the vehicle.
- 26 (b) An autonomous [automated motor] vehicle may not operate
- 27 on a highway in this state [with the automated driving system

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    engaged] unless:
 2
                (1) the owner of the vehicle:
                     (A) holds a permit issued under this subchapter;
 3
 4
    and
 5
                     (B) has submitted to the department, in the form
    and manner prescribed by rule of the Public Safety Commission, a
 6
    plan specifying how a person who provides firefighting, law
 7
    enforcement, ambulance, medical, or other emergency services
 8
    should interact with the autonomous vehicle during the provision of
10
    those services; and
                (2) the vehicle is:
11
12
                     (A) registered with the commission as provided by
13
    Section 545.456;
14
                     (B) [\frac{1}{1}] capable of operating in compliance
15
    with applicable traffic and motor vehicle laws of this state,
    subject to this subchapter;
16
17
                     (C) [\frac{(2)}{(2)}] equipped with a recording device, as
    defined by Section 547.615(a), installed by the manufacturer of the
18
    autonomous [automated motor] vehicle or automated driving system;
19
20
                     (D) [\frac{(3)}{(3)}] equipped with an automated driving
21
    system in compliance with applicable federal law and federal motor
    vehicle safety standards;
22
23
                     (E) [\frac{(4)}{(4)}] registered and titled in accordance
24
    with the laws of this state; and
25
                     (F) either:
                          (i) [<del>(5)</del>] covered
26
                                                 bу
                                                       motor
                                                                 vehicle
27
    liability coverage or self-insurance in an amount prescribed by
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- 1 commission rule; or
- 2 (ii) if the autonomous vehicle is owned by a
- 3 <u>transportation network company or transportation network company</u>
- 4 driver, covered by primary automobile insurance in accordance with
- 5 Chapter 1954, Insurance Code [equal to the amount of coverage that
- 6 is required under the laws of this state].
- 7 (c) A person who is the owner of an autonomous vehicle
- 8 commits an offense if the autonomous vehicle is operated on a public
- 9 highway in violation of Subsection (b). An offense under this
- 10 subsection is a Class A misdemeanor.
- Sec. 545.455. AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE PERMIT. (a) An applicant
- 12 for a permit under this subchapter shall apply to the commission in
- 13 the form and manner prescribed by commission rule.
- 14 (b) The commission shall issue a permit to each applicant
- 15 that:
- 16 (1) meets the eligibility criteria for the permit as
- 17 prescribed by commission rule; and
- 18 (2) pays a fee in an amount determined by commission
- 19 rule to cover the cost of administering this subchapter.
- 20 (c) Commission rules prescribing the eligibility criteria
- 21 <u>described</u> by Subsection (b)(1) must require an applicant for a
- 22 permit under this subchapter to include in the application:
- (1) whether the applicant holds, or intends to apply
- 24 for, a permit issued under Chapter 2402, Occupations Code; and
- 25 (2) if the applicant holds a permit issued under
- 26 Chapter 2402, Occupations Code, the permit number for that permit.
- 27 (d) To maintain a permit under this subchapter, the holder

- 1 of the permit shall annually pay the fee described by Subsection
- 2 (b)(2) to the commission.
- 3 Sec. 545.456. REGISTRATION OF AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE WITH
- 4 COMMISSION. A holder of a permit under this subchapter shall
- 5 register with the commission, in the form and manner prescribed by
- 6 commission rule, each autonomous vehicle authorized to operate
- 7 under the permit.
- 8 Sec. 545.457. EXEMPTION FROM PERMIT REQUIREMENTS. (a)
- 9 Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, the
- 10 commission by rule may exempt the permit requirements under this
- 11 subchapter from applying to an autonomous vehicle that is operated
- 12 solely for personal use if rules are adopted authorizing the sale of
- 13 autonomous vehicles in this state to the public by a dealer, as
- 14 defined by Section 2301.002, Occupations Code.
- 15 (b) A person operating an autonomous vehicle in accordance
- 16 with a rule adopted under this section is considered to satisfy the
- 17 requirements of Sections 545.454(b)(1) and (2)(A) with respect to
- 18 that vehicle.
- 19 Sec. 545.458 [545.455]. DUTIES FOLLOWING COLLISION
- 20 INVOLVING <u>AUTONOMOUS</u> [<u>AUTOMATED MOTOR</u>] VEHICLE; REPORTING OF
- 21 COLLISION DATA. (a) In the event of a collision involving an
- 22 autonomous [automated motor] vehicle:
- 23 (1) the holder of the permit under which the
- 24 <u>autonomous vehicle is operating</u>[, the automated motor vehicle] or
- 25 any human operator of the autonomous [automated motor] vehicle
- 26 shall comply with Chapter 550; and
- 27 (2) the permit holder described by Subdivision (1)

- 1 shall notify the commission of the collision, in the form and manner
- 2 prescribed by commission rule, not later than 48 hours after the
- 3 collision.
- 4 (b) A holder of a permit under this subchapter shall submit
- 5 to the commission, in the form and manner prescribed by commission
- 6 rule, any collision data that the permit holder is required to
- 7 <u>submit to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration or</u>
- 8 another federal agency.
- 9 Sec. 545.459. ONLINE PORTAL. The commission shall
- 10 establish and maintain an online portal on the Texas Department of
- 11 Motor Vehicles' Internet website that, at a minimum, allows a
- 12 person to:
- 13 (1) apply for a permit under this subchapter;
- 14 (2) pay the annual fee to maintain the permit;
- 15 (3) register with the commission an autonomous vehicle
- 16 authorized to operate under the permit; and
- 17 (4) notify the commission of a collision involving an
- 18 autonomous vehicle or report collision data required under this
- 19 subchapter.
- Sec. 545.460. ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES; RULES. (a) The
- 21 commission by rule shall adopt procedures for the revocation or
- 22 suspension of a permit issued under this subchapter.
- 23 (b) The commission shall hold a public hearing if an
- 24 autonomous vehicle operating under a permit issued under this
- 25 subchapter is involved in a collision that results in a fatality.
- 26 (c) The commission may adopt any other rules or procedures
- 27 <u>necessary to administer</u> this subchapter.

- 1 Sec. 545.461 [545.456]. VEHICLE CLASSIFICATION. An owner
- 2 [as defined by Section 502.001(31)] may identify the vehicle to the
- 3 department as an autonomous [automated motor] vehicle or an
- 4 automated driving system.
- 5 SECTION 3. The heading to Section 547.618, Transportation
- 6 Code, is amended to read as follows:
- 7 Sec. 547.618. EQUIPMENT REQUIRED FOR CERTAIN <u>AUTONOMOUS</u>
- 8 [AUTOMATED MOTOR] VEHICLES.
- 9 SECTION 4. Sections 547.618(a) and (b), Transportation
- 10 Code, are amended to read as follows:
- 11 (a) In this section, "autonomous [automated motor] vehicle"
- 12 and "automated driving system" have the meanings assigned by
- 13 Section 545.451.
- 14 (b) An autonomous [automated motor] vehicle that is
- 15 designed to be operated exclusively by the automated driving system
- 16 for all trips is not subject to motor vehicle equipment laws or
- 17 regulations of this state that:
- 18 (1) relate to or support motor vehicle operation by a
- 19 human driver; and
- 20 (2) are not relevant for an automated driving system.
- 21 SECTION 5. Subtitle M, Title 7, Transportation Code, is
- 22 amended by adding Chapter 1007 to read as follows:
- 23 <u>CHAPTER 1007. AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE COMMISSION</u>
- Sec. 1007.001. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "commission"
- 25 means the Autonomous Vehicle Commission established under this
- 26 chapter.
- Sec. 1007.002. ESTABLISHMENT; MEMBERSHIP. (a) The

1 Autonomous Vehicle Commission is established. 2 The commission is composed of 11 voting members and 2 3 nonvoting members as follows: 4 (1) the presiding officer of the Connected and Autonomous Vehicle Task Force of the Texas Department 5 of 6 Transportation or a successor task force; (2) the public safety director of the Department of 7 8 Public Safety or the director's designee; 9 (3) the following members appointed by the governor: 10 (A) two members who represent an entity that manufactures or operates autonomous vehicles with a gross weight 11 12 rating of less than 10,000 pounds; (B) two members who represent an entity that 13 manufactures or operates autonomous vehicles with a gross weight 14 15 rating of 10,000 pounds or more; 16 (C) one representative of the Texas A&M17 Transportation Institute; (D) one representative of the Center for 18 19 Transportation Research at The University of Texas at Austin; and 20 (E) one member of the public; 21 (4) one member of the public appointed by governor 22 from a list submitted by the lieutenant governor; (5) one member of the public appointed by the governor 23 24 from a list submitted by the speaker of the house 25 representatives; 26 (6) the presiding officer of the standing committee of

the senate with primary jurisdiction over business and commerce

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- 1 matters, to serve ex officio as a nonvoting member; and
- 2 (7) the presiding officer of the standing committee of
- 3 the house of representatives with primary jurisdiction over
- 4 transportation matters, to serve ex officio as a nonvoting member.
- 5 (c) Appointed commission members serve for two-year terms.
- 6 (d) A vacancy on the commission shall be filled in the same
- 7 manner as the original appointment.
- 8 <u>(e) The commission member described by Subsection (b)(2)</u>
- 9 shall serve as the presiding officer.
- Sec. 1007.003. ADMINISTRATIVE ATTACHMENT; FUNDING. (a)
- 11 The commission is administratively attached to the department.
- 12 (b) The commission shall be funded using existing funds of
- 13 the department.
- 14 (c) Employees of the department shall serve as the staff for
- 15 the commission, including by administering and enforcing the
- 16 provisions of Subchapter J, Chapter 545, relating to the
- 17 commission's duties under that subchapter.
- 18 (d) The department shall provide the facilities necessary
- 19 to assist the commission in carrying out the commission's duties.
- Sec. 1007.004. DUTIES. The commission shall oversee the
- 21 administration and enforcement of the provisions of Subchapter J,
- 22 Chapter 545, relating to commission duties under that subchapter
- 23 and is responsible for the adoption of rules relating to those
- 24 provisions as provided by that subchapter.
- Sec. 1007.005. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. The commission
- 26 is subject to Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act). The
- 27 commission shall be reviewed during the period in which the

- 1 department is reviewed under Section 1001.005. Unless continued in
- 2 existence as provided by Chapter 325, Government Code, the
- 3 commission is abolished and this subchapter expires on the date on
- 4 which the department is subject to abolishment under that section.
- 5 SECTION 6. Section 17.45, Business & Commerce Code, is
- 6 amended by adding Subdivision (18) to read as follows:
- 7 (18) "Level 4 automation" and "Level 5 automation"
- 8 have the meanings assigned by Section 545.451, Transportation Code.
- 9 SECTION 7. Section 17.46(b), Business & Commerce Code, is
- 10 amended to read as follows:
- 11 (b) Except as provided in Subsection (d) of this section,
- 12 the term "false, misleading, or deceptive acts or practices"
- 13 includes, but is not limited to, the following acts:
- 14 (1) passing off goods or services as those of another;
- 15 (2) causing confusion or misunderstanding as to the
- 16 source, sponsorship, approval, or certification of goods or
- 17 services;
- 18 (3) causing confusion or misunderstanding as to
- 19 affiliation, connection, or association with, or certification by,
- 20 another;
- 21 (4) using deceptive representations or designations
- 22 of geographic origin in connection with goods or services;
- 23 (5) representing that goods or services have
- 24 sponsorship, approval, characteristics, ingredients, uses,
- 25 benefits, or quantities which they do not have or that a person has
- 26 a sponsorship, approval, status, affiliation, or connection which
- 27 the person does not;

- 1 (6) representing that goods are original or new if
- 2 they are deteriorated, reconditioned, reclaimed, used, or
- 3 secondhand;
- 4 (7) representing that goods or services are of a
- 5 particular standard, quality, or grade, or that goods are of a
- 6 particular style or model, if they are of another;
- 7 (8) disparaging the goods, services, or business of
- 8 another by false or misleading representation of facts;
- 9 (9) advertising goods or services with intent not to
- 10 sell them as advertised;
- 11 (10) advertising goods or services with intent not to
- 12 supply a reasonable expectable public demand, unless the
- 13 advertisements disclosed a limitation of quantity;
- 14 (11) making false or misleading statements of fact
- 15 concerning the reasons for, existence of, or amount of price
- 16 reductions;
- 17 (12) representing that an agreement confers or
- 18 involves rights, remedies, or obligations which it does not have or
- 19 involve, or which are prohibited by law;
- 20 (13) knowingly making false or misleading statements
- 21 of fact concerning the need for parts, replacement, or repair
- 22 service;
- 23 (14) misrepresenting the authority of a salesman,
- 24 representative or agent to negotiate the final terms of a consumer
- 25 transaction;
- 26 (15) basing a charge for the repair of any item in
- 27 whole or in part on a guaranty or warranty instead of on the value of

- 1 the actual repairs made or work to be performed on the item without
- 2 stating separately the charges for the work and the charge for the
- 3 warranty or quaranty, if any;
- 4 (16) disconnecting, turning back, or resetting the
- 5 odometer of any motor vehicle so as to reduce the number of miles
- 6 indicated on the odometer gauge;
- 7 (17) advertising of any sale by fraudulently
- 8 representing that a person is going out of business;
- 9 (18) advertising, selling, or distributing a card
- 10 which purports to be a prescription drug identification card issued
- 11 under Section 4151.152, Insurance Code, in accordance with rules
- 12 adopted by the commissioner of insurance, which offers a discount
- 13 on the purchase of health care goods or services from a third party
- 14 provider, and which is not evidence of insurance coverage, unless:
- 15 (A) the discount is authorized under an agreement
- 16 between the seller of the card and the provider of those goods and
- 17 services or the discount or card is offered to members of the
- 18 seller;
- 19 (B) the seller does not represent that the card
- 20 provides insurance coverage of any kind; and
- 21 (C) the discount is not false, misleading, or
- 22 deceptive;
- 23 (19) using or employing a chain referral sales plan in
- 24 connection with the sale or offer to sell of goods, merchandise, or
- 25 anything of value, which uses the sales technique, plan,
- 26 arrangement, or agreement in which the buyer or prospective buyer
- 27 is offered the opportunity to purchase merchandise or goods and in

- 1 connection with the purchase receives the seller's promise or
- 2 representation that the buyer shall have the right to receive
- 3 compensation or consideration in any form for furnishing to the
- 4 seller the names of other prospective buyers if receipt of the
- 5 compensation or consideration is contingent upon the occurrence of
- 6 an event subsequent to the time the buyer purchases the merchandise
- 7 or goods;
- 8 (20) representing that a guaranty or warranty confers
- 9 or involves rights or remedies which it does not have or involve,
- 10 provided, however, that nothing in this subchapter shall be
- 11 construed to expand the implied warranty of merchantability as
- 12 defined in Sections 2.314 through 2.318 and Sections 2A.212 through
- 13 2A.216 to involve obligations in excess of those which are
- 14 appropriate to the goods;
- 15 (21) promoting a pyramid promotional scheme, as
- 16 defined by Section 17.461;
- 17 (22) representing that work or services have been
- 18 performed on, or parts replaced in, goods when the work or services
- 19 were not performed or the parts replaced;
- 20 (23) filing suit founded upon a written contractual
- 21 obligation of and signed by the defendant to pay money arising out
- 22 of or based on a consumer transaction for goods, services, loans, or
- 23 extensions of credit intended primarily for personal, family,
- 24 household, or agricultural use in any county other than in the
- 25 county in which the defendant resides at the time of the
- 26 commencement of the action or in the county in which the defendant
- 27 in fact signed the contract; provided, however, that a violation of

- 1 this subsection shall not occur where it is shown by the person
- 2 filing such suit that the person neither knew or had reason to know
- 3 that the county in which such suit was filed was neither the county
- 4 in which the defendant resides at the commencement of the suit nor
- 5 the county in which the defendant in fact signed the contract;
- 6 (24) failing to disclose information concerning goods
- 7 or services which was known at the time of the transaction if such
- 8 failure to disclose such information was intended to induce the
- 9 consumer into a transaction into which the consumer would not have
- 10 entered had the information been disclosed;
- 11 (25) using the term "corporation," "incorporated," or
- 12 an abbreviation of either of those terms in the name of a business
- 13 entity that is not incorporated under the laws of this state or
- 14 another jurisdiction;
- 15 (26) selling, offering to sell, or illegally promoting
- 16 an annuity contract under Chapter 22, Acts of the 57th Legislature,
- 17 3rd Called Session, 1962 (Article 6228a-5, Vernon's Texas Civil
- 18 Statutes), with the intent that the annuity contract will be the
- 19 subject of a salary reduction agreement, as defined by that Act, if
- 20 the annuity contract is not an eligible qualified investment under
- 21 that Act;
- 22 (27) subject to Section 17.4625, taking advantage of a
- 23 disaster declared by the governor under Chapter 418, Government
- 24 Code, or by the president of the United States by:
- 25 (A) selling or leasing fuel, food, medicine,
- 26 lodging, building materials, construction tools, or another
- 27 necessity at an exorbitant or excessive price; or

- 1 (B) demanding an exorbitant or excessive price in
- 2 connection with the sale or lease of fuel, food, medicine, lodging,
- 3 building materials, construction tools, or another necessity;
- 4 (28) using the translation into a foreign language of
- 5 a title or other word, including "attorney," "immigration
- 6 consultant," "immigration expert," "lawyer," "licensed," "notary,"
- 7 and "notary public," in any written or electronic material,
- 8 including an advertisement, a business card, a letterhead,
- 9 stationery, a website, or an online video, in reference to a person
- 10 who is not an attorney in order to imply that the person is
- 11 authorized to practice law in the United States;
- 12 (29) delivering or distributing a solicitation in
- 13 connection with a good or service that:
- 14 (A) represents that the solicitation is sent on
- 15 behalf of a governmental entity when it is not; or
- 16 (B) resembles a governmental notice or form that
- 17 represents or implies that a criminal penalty may be imposed if the
- 18 recipient does not remit payment for the good or service;
- 19 (30) delivering or distributing a solicitation in
- 20 connection with a good or service that resembles a check or other
- 21 negotiable instrument or invoice, unless the portion of the
- 22 solicitation that resembles a check or other negotiable instrument
- 23 or invoice includes the following notice, clearly and conspicuously
- 24 printed in at least 18-point type:
- 25 "SPECIMEN-NON-NEGOTIABLE";
- 26 (31) in the production, sale, distribution, or
- 27 promotion of a synthetic substance that produces and is intended to

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- 1 produce an effect when consumed or ingested similar to, or in excess
- 2 of, the effect of a controlled substance or controlled substance
- 3 analogue, as those terms are defined by Section 481.002, Health and
- 4 Safety Code:
- 5 (A) making a deceptive representation or
- 6 designation about the synthetic substance; or
- 7 (B) causing confusion or misunderstanding as to
- 8 the effects the synthetic substance causes when consumed or
- 9 ingested;
- 10 (32) a licensed public insurance adjuster directly or
- 11 indirectly soliciting employment, as defined by Section 38.01,
- 12 Penal Code, for an attorney, or a licensed public insurance
- 13 adjuster entering into a contract with an insured for the primary
- 14 purpose of referring the insured to an attorney without the intent
- 15 to actually perform the services customarily provided by a licensed
- 16 public insurance adjuster, provided that this subdivision may not
- 17 be construed to prohibit a licensed public insurance adjuster from
- 18 recommending a particular attorney to an insured;
- 19 (33) owning, operating, maintaining, or advertising a
- 20 massage establishment, as defined by Section 455.001, Occupations
- 21 Code, that:
- 22 (A) is not appropriately licensed under Chapter
- 23 455, Occupations Code, or is not in compliance with the applicable
- 24 licensing and other requirements of that chapter; or
- 25 (B) is not in compliance with an applicable local
- 26 ordinance relating to the licensing or regulation of massage
- 27 establishments; [or]

- 1 (34) a warrantor of a vehicle protection product
- 2 warranty using, in connection with the product, a name that
- 3 includes "casualty," "surety," "insurance," "mutual," or any other
- 4 word descriptive of an insurance business, including property or
- 5 casualty insurance, or a surety business;
- 6 (35) advertising or otherwise representing a
- 7 technology or other product as capable of converting a motor
- 8 <u>vehicle to an autonomous vehicle unless the motor vehicle when</u>
- 9 equipped with the technology or other product is able to be operated
- 10 with Level 4 automation or Level 5 automation; or
- 11 (36) advertising or otherwise representing a motor
- 12 vehicle as an autonomous vehicle or as self-driving unless the
- 13 <u>vehicle is able to be operated with Level 4 automation or Level 5</u>
- 14 automation.
- SECTION 8. Section 17.46, Business & Commerce Code, as
- 16 amended by this Act, applies only to an act or practice that occurs
- 17 on or after September 1, 2025. An act or practice that occurs
- 18 before September 1, 2025, is governed by the law in effect on the
- 19 date the act or practice occurred, and the former law is continued
- 20 in effect for that purpose.
- 21 SECTION 9. (a) Not later than October 1, 2025, the
- 22 appropriate appointing authorities shall appoint the members of the
- 23 Autonomous Vehicle Commission as required by Section 1007.002,
- 24 Transportation Code, as added by this Act.
- 25 (b) Not later than December 1, 2025:
- 26 (1) the Autonomous Vehicle Commission shall adopt the
- 27 rules required by Subchapter J, Chapter 545, Transportation Code,

- 1 as amended by this Act, and any other rules necessary to administer
- 2 that subchapter; and
- 3 (2) the Public Safety Commission shall adopt the rule
- 4 required by Section 545.454(b)(1), Transportation Code, as added by
- 5 this Act.
- 6 (c) The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles is not required
- 7 to comply with Section 502.0433, Transportation Code, as added by
- 8 this Act, until January 1, 2026.
- 9 (d) A person is not required to comply with Subchapter J,
- 10 Chapter 545, Transportation Code, as amended by this Act, until
- 11 January 1, 2026.
- 12 SECTION 10. This Act takes effect immediately if it
- 13 receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each
- 14 house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution.
- 15 If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate
- 16 effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2025.