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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 1096 Session of  
2018

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INTRODUCED BY BROWNE, RAFFERTY, RESCHENTHALER, VULAKOVICH,  
KILLION, McGARRIGLE, BOSCOLA, BLAKE, YUDICHAK AND SABATINA,  
MARCH 28, 2018

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REFERRED TO TRANSPORTATION, MARCH 28, 2018

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, in general provisions, further providing for  
3 definitions; in rules of the road in general, providing for  
4 platooning; and providing for autonomous vehicles.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Section 102 of Title 75 of the Pennsylvania  
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding definitions to read:

9 § 102. Definitions.

10 Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent  
11 provisions of this title which are applicable to specific  
12 provisions of this title, the following words and phrases when  
13 used in this title shall have, unless the context clearly  
14 indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this section:

15 \* \* \*

16 "Highly automated work zone vehicle." A motor vehicle  
17 equipped either with an automated driving system, or connected  
18 by wireless communication or other technology to another vehicle

1 allowing for coordinated or controlled movement, used in an  
2 active work zone as implemented by the department or the  
3 Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission.

4 \* \* \*

5 "Platoon." A group of individual military vehicles or motor  
6 carrier vehicles operated by a human traveling in a unified  
7 manner at electronically coordinated speeds at following  
8 distances that are closer than would be reasonable and prudent  
9 without such coordination.

10 \* \* \*

11 Section 2. Title 75 is amended by adding a section to read:  
12 § 3317. Platooning.

13 (a) General rule.--Nonlead vehicles in a platoon shall not  
14 be subject to the provisions of section 3310 (relating to  
15 following too closely).

16 (b) Visual identifier.--All platooning motor carrier  
17 vehicles must be marked with a visual identifier on the power  
18 unit. The department, after consultation with the Pennsylvania  
19 State Police, shall publish guidelines in the Pennsylvania  
20 Bulletin establishing the criteria and placement of the visual  
21 identifier. The guidelines shall be in effect until Federal  
22 guidelines or regulations are promulgated.

23 (c) Restrictions.--A platoon shall observe the following  
24 restrictions:

25 (1) A maximum of three vehicles shall be in a platoon.

26 (2) Vehicles in a platoon shall travel only on limited  
27 access highways or interstate highways, unless otherwise  
28 permitted by the department.

29 (3) The department or the Pennsylvania Turnpike  
30 Commission, as applicable, may restrict vehicle movement

1 under this section for operational or safety reasons,  
2 including, but not limited to, emergency conditions.

3 Section 3. Title 75 is amended by adding a chapter to read:

4 CHAPTER 85  
5 AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES

6 Sec.

7 8501. (Reserved).

8 8502. Highly automated work zone vehicle.

9 § 8501. (Reserved).

10 § 8502. Highly automated work zone vehicle.

11 (a) General rule.--The department or the Pennsylvania  
12 Turnpike Commission, as applicable, shall authorize the  
13 locations in Pennsylvania, on a periodic basis, to permit the  
14 deployment of a highly automated work zone vehicle.

15 (b) Requirements.--When operating in an active work zone, a  
16 highly automated work zone vehicle does not require a human  
17 operator.

18 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 90 days.