



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1958

PRINTERS NO. 2916

PRIME SPONSOR: Rothman

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2017/18	FY 2018/19
Motor License Fund	\$0	\$0
PA Turnpike Commission Funds	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: Amends Title 75 (Vehicle Code) to allow for the platooning of certain vehicles; and to authorize the use of a fully autonomous work-zone vehicle by PennDOT and the PA Turnpike Commission. This legislation would take effect in 90 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation makes the following amendments to the Vehicle Code:

§102 (Definitions): *'Platoon'*: A group of individual military vehicles or motor carrier vehicles operated by a human traveling in a unified manner at electronically coordinated speeds at following distances that are closer than would be reasonable and prudent without such coordination.

'Highly automated work zone vehicle': A motor vehicle equipped either with an automated driving system, or connected by wireless communication or other technology to another vehicle allowing for coordinated or controlled movement, used in an active work zone as implemented by PennDOT or the PA Turnpike Commission.

§3317 (Platooning): This newly established section establishes rules and restrictions for a platoon, as follows:

- Non-lead vehicles are exempt from the provisions of §3310 (Following too closely);
- Requires motor carrier vehicles be marked with a visual identifier;
- Establishes restrictions which a platoon must observe:
 - A maximum of three vehicles;
 - Shall only travel on limited access highways or interstate highways, unless otherwise posted;
 - PennDOT or the PA Turnpike Commission has the ability to restrict platooning during inclement weather as determined by PennDOT regulations.

Chapter 85 (Autonomous Vehicles; §8502 (Highly automated work zone vehicle)): This newly established chapter and section institutes the rules and requirements for the operation of highly automated work zone vehicles, as follows:

- PennDOT or the PA Turnpike Commission shall authorize the locations to permit the deployment of such vehicles;
- These vehicles do not require a human operator while operating in an active work zone.

FISCAL IMPACT: This legislation would have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: March 12, 2018

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.