

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Community and Regional Affairs](#)
Subject: HB 217 comment
Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 3:09:19 PM

Hi; reading about the bill to forbid level 5 autonomous vehicles in Alaska, I suggest there may be substantial issues involved that may have been overlooked. First; sodium ion batteries can now work to -40 degrees f and evs are becoming more practical for Alaska. Two- level 5 autonomous vehicles driving the Alaska highway down the road may substantially increase traffic to Alaska, increase business and economics. Three- Canadians may be operating level 5 autonomous vehicles themselves liberally in the future and might coordinate electric recharge stations with Alaska to expedite efficient tech development of autonomous vehicle cargo deliveries to Alaska and across the Yukon as well. They would also need to let sealed vehicles pass through Canada unmolested ala NAFTA. Requiring human operators would negatively impact that line of development and be somewhat backward. Of course autonomous AI vehicles do compete with humans to some extent yet that cat seems to already have escaped the bag as has AI development.

Thanks for your time, May you be as wise as Solomon in making your decision eventually. P.S. THE place I am repurchasing that I owned from 1990 for some time still hasn't got a road to it 5 miles south of the Wrangell airport so I had difficulty logging in to Legislative Affairs and sent this email instead.

Garrison C Gibson

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May the will of God develop your happiness righteously through grace.