



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

**CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU**  
Governor

July 2, 2018

**Governor's Veto Message Regarding House Bill 314**

By the authority vested in me, pursuant to part II, Article 44 of the New Hampshire Constitution, on July 2nd, 2018, I have vetoed House Bill HB 314, relative to licensing requirements for autonomous vehicle testing and establishing an automated and connected vehicle testing and deployment commission.

While well-intentioned, House Bill 314 fails to address a number of issues related to automated vehicle technology. The bill only addresses "SAE level 5 full automation technology", which represents just a small portion of the testing being conducted on public roadways. The bill fails to address level 3 or level 4 technology, which are equivalent to those being tested in a fatal Arizona accident this past March. This bill would allow for testing of any technology below level 5 without testers having to obtain a license or even notify the state, a lack of oversight which is not acceptable here in New Hampshire. This issue is just too serious to allow a bill to give the appearance of responsible oversight, when in fact little would change on the ground. In addition, there are no clear definitions as to what is and is not an "autonomous vehicle," creating loopholes which may compromise the safety of drivers in this state.

House Bill 314 is a flawed bill that does not adequately account for public safety. This legislation may attract less responsible actors to New Hampshire to develop autonomous vehicle technology and could result in a more dangerous testing environment on New Hampshire's roads. I hope that the House and Senate will work together next session to pass a bill that will encourage development of autonomous vehicle technologies while ensuring the safety of our citizens. By only addressing level 5 technology, House Bill 314 failed on both accounts.

For the reasons stated above, I have vetoed House Bill 314.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christopher T. Sununu".

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Christopher T. Sununu  
Governor