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## **Autonomous Vehicle Legislation Passes Senate Transportation Committee**

*"The Texas economy fosters innovation... we need to be prepared for it," says Sen. Hancock*

**AUSTIN** - The Texas Senate Transportation Committee today unanimously passed SB 2205 by Senator Kelly Hancock (R-North Richland Hills). This legislation lays the statutory groundwork necessary for the operation of certain autonomous vehicles (AVs) on Texas roadways.

"The Texas economy fosters innovation," said Sen. Hancock, who also chairs the Senate's Business & Commerce committee. "Automotive technology is advancing at a rapid pace, and we need to be prepared for it."

AVs are classified under six different levels of automation as recognized by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Levels zero to three involve some degree of human control over the vehicle's operation. Levels four and five do not require a human driver and are considered "high automation" and "full automation," respectively.

SB 2205 would allow the testing and operation of high and full automation AVs on public roadways as long as the vehicle is in compliance with applicable federal laws and Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards, is registered and titled by the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles, is covered by liability- or self-insurance, and is equipped with a data recording system.

The legislation was developed and refined through a series of stakeholder meetings that brought industry and public safety experts to the table. To read the full text of the bill, visit [Texas Legislature Online](#).

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*Sen. Hancock represents [District 9](#), which includes portions of Dallas and Tarrant Counties. He currently serves as Chairman of the Texas Senate Committee on Business & Commerce.*