Representing the Leading Automobile & Homeowners' Insurers

June 10, 2016



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To: The Honorable Jim Beall, Chair

The Honorable Anthony Cannella, Vice Chair

Members, Senate Transportation & Housing Committee

From: Rex D. Frazier, President

Michael A. Gunning, Vice President Kara Cross, General Counsel

Re: AB 2682 (Chang) Autonomous Vehicles

As Amended May 18, 2016

Senate Transportation & Housing Committee-June 14, 2016

PIFC Position: Support

The Personal Insurance Federation of California, representing seven of the nation's largest insurance companies (State Farm, Farmers, Liberty Mutual Insurance, Progressive, Allstate, Mercury and Nationwide) who collectively write a majority of the personal line auto and home insurance in California, supports AB 2682, Autonomous Vehicles by Assemblymember Chang.

AB 2682 would require the Department of Motor Vehicles, (DMV), upon the development of a model state policy on autonomous vehicles by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), to hold public hearings on the model policy and consider, to the extent authorized under law, conforming DMV regulations to that policy.

PIFC has consistently supported the development of innovative automotive technologies and was a supporter of SB 1298 (Padilla – 2012). However, as companies writing business throughout the country, we are concerned that a state-by-state approach could result in confusing and conflicting standards for automobile insurance and other policy issues. This bill would ensure that the DMV at least hold hearings that would consider conforming California law to the federal standards.

In addition, AB 2682 would make California ready to receive funds that might be tied to the state policies that are developed by the DMV after the hearings. PIFC and its member companies have a long-standing record of supporting sound safety measures that serve to reduce injuries and enhance public road safety.

PIFC supports AB 2682, by Assemblymember Chang and urges your "aye" vote. If you have any questions regarding PIFC's position, please contact Michael A. Gunning at (916) 442-6646.

CC: Asm. Ling Ling Chang, Author Erin Riches Consultant, Senate Transportation & Housing Committee Ted Morley, Senate Republican Caucus Consultant Robert Herrell, Legislative Director, California Department of Insurance Camille Wagner, Legislative Affairs Secretary, Governor's Office