

## Comment from J. Alex Dietz

Overall, I am very open to the idea of Automated Driving Systems (ADS) being introduced in the United States. As a world-leader in technology and innovation, it is our duty to harness the power of our scientists and engineers who have dedicated their lives to the increases in safety while on roadways. Automated driving may be another option for decreasing/eliminating human error, that can often lead to car accidents. Through research and development, Automated Driving has become incredibly safe, and is popular in Europe, Germany especially. Germany even allows "Level 5" automation, which is defined as "Full Driving Automation" in Table 1 of SAE J3016. (Section I). Perhaps the most famous of the ADS are the Tesla variants, which are made in America. We must not lose out on this new American innovation due to outdated rules and policies. Considering the fact that up to "Level 4" automation is already legal in the United States, surely NHTSA can do further research to investigate the addition of "Level 5".

I certainly understand the concerns some people have with ADS. Lack of human oversight is certainly worrisome, however, in some instances humans actually respond inadequately. Computers can sometimes process tasks quicker, and more efficiently than humans. Distracted driving leads me to believe that automated systems could play a huge role in saving the lives of those who are involved in distraction-related incidents.

This topic is certainly controversial, and I have struggled to come to a definitive conclusion. With increased access to data surrounding this topic, I will be able to formulate a more conclusive opinion on the role of ADS.