

## Comment from Michael Foster

Autonomous vehicles rules should not compromise or conflict with the public's safety. As the trucking industry and large technological conglomerates attempt to replace professional and skilled drivers with driverless vehicles on some of America's busiest and most dangerous roads and highways, it is imperative to put the safety and well-being of the public over corporate profits. The safety standards for an autonomous vehicle must be as rigorous or exceed the standards of a vehicle engaged by a professional driver. One simply has to review the introduction of drones to the skies, driverless cars on the roads, and the possible safety risks and dangers that are occurring with these types of technology demands stringent and rigorous regulatory rules and enforcement of autonomous trucks. In the case of an accident which will obviously happen how will laws and rules protect the injured or their families? Will the trucking companies and manufacturers be forced to take responsibility for the inevitable occurrences of failed technology? Technology works when everything occurs as expected. The unexpected occurrences including inclement weather, Acts of God, and the numerous challenges facing the professional truckers each and every day cannot always be programmed or are available at the flip of a switch. Congress must lead the regulating of this technology and place safety ahead of profits.