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September 21, 2022

Ann Carlson Acting Administrator National Highway Traffic Safety Administration 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE West Building Washington, DC 20590

RE: NHTSA Docket #: NHTSA-2022-0067-0002

Dear Acting Administrator Carlson:

I write today in support of the General Motors (GM) and Cruise petition, which will help accelerate the deployment of self-driving cars and the benefit this technology will bring to society.

The Detroit Regional Chamber is one of the oldest, largest, and most respected chambers of commerce in the country. As the voice for business in the 11-county Southeast Michigan region, the Chamber's mission is carried out by creating a business-friendly climate and providing value for members. It operates MICHauto, the state's only automotive, mobility, and technology industry cluster associations and leads one of the most influential government affairs teams in the state.

The United States risks losing its technological leadership in the autonomous vehicle industry unless it enacts policies to protect its leadership in the development, manufacture, and deployment of autonomous vehicles against global competitors, specifically China and Europe, that are rapidly developing AV technology. The U.S. could easily fall behind and would lose the opportunity to write the rules of the AV road if we do not support and foster the growth of American-developed and manufactured AVs like the Cruise Origin.

The Cruise Origin is a multi-billion dollar investment from GM and Cruise that will define the future of the auto sector. As Detroit was once the birthplace of the automotive industry, it will continue to serve as the epicenter for the automotive industry's rapid transformation into the future of transportation, especially with investments like the 2.2 billion dollars that General Motors has committed to the city of Detroit with the transformation of the Detroit-Hamtramck plant into the Factory Zero, where the Origin will be manufactured alongside electric vehicles.

Further, Origin manufacturing will support more than 2,200 union jobs at Factory Zero—jobs that will bolster our local economy and bring highly-skilled talent to Detroit. Providing automakers like General Motors with the tools they need to safely test and deploy automated

vehicles across the nation will continue to create high-quality jobs and generate billions of dollars in investment in the United States.

We appreciate the benefits that AVs will provide for American manufacturing and technological leadership, as well as our local and regional economies, and it is therefore in the public interest for NHTSA to grant this petition for exemption.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

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Bradley G. Williams

Vice President, Government Relations