A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF AUTOMATED VEHICLES.

WHEREAS, automated driving system-equipped vehicles, sometimes called "partially autonomous vehicles", are an increasingly prevalent aspect of vehicular traffic; and

WHEREAS, automated driving system-dedicated vehicles, sometimes called "fully autonomous vehicles", may soon be on roadways in significant numbers; and

WHEREAS, widespread use of automation may significantly reduce traffic accidents in the future, but the transition to increased automation poses challenges, and road and weather conditions in Montana pose special challenges; and

WHEREAS, Montana has the highest rate of live animal-related fatal car crashes in the United States due to the abundance of both wildlife and livestock on roadways, which poses a unique challenge for automated vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the federal government is in the best position to regulate safety standards for vehicle automation due to the interstate commerce clause of the United States Constitution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That the Montana Legislature urges the United States Congress and the federal Department of Transportation to adopt laws and rules that ensure automated vehicles are capable of operating safely in all weather conditions, including conditions that cover the roadway in snow or ice, and are capable of operating safely in all road conditions, including mountain passes and roads through the open range.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State send a copy of this resolution to each member of the Montana Congressional Delegation, the members of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee of the United States Senate, and the Secretary of Transportation.


- END -

I hereby certify that the within bill,

SJ 16, originated in the Senate.


_____

Secretary of the Senate



_____

President of the Senate


Signed this _____day

of_____, 2025.




_____

Speaker of the House



Signed this _____day
of_____, 2025.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 16

INTRODUCED BY D. LOGE, N. DURAM

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF AUTOMATED VEHICLES.