



Councilmember Charles Allen

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to amend the Autonomous Vehicle Act of 2012 to prohibit driverless testing of autonomous vehicles (“AV”) on District roadways without an AV testing permit, and to require any person or entity testing AVs with a test operator before an AV testing permit becomes available to provide notice to the District Department of Transportation.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Autonomous Vehicle Testing Permit Requirement Second Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2024”.

Sec. 2. (a) The Autonomous Vehicle Testing Program Amendment Act of 2020, effective December 23, 2020 (D.C. Law 23-156; D.C. Official Code § 50-2351 *et seq.*), authorizes an autonomous vehicle (“AV”) company to test or operate an AVs on District roadways without an AV testing permit for up to 60 days after the District Department of Transportation (“DDOT”) makes the permit application available, where that entity had already begun testing or operations prior to the AV testing permit application being made available as part of an Autonomous Vehicles Testing Program.

(b) To provide interim requirements with which AV testing companies must comply as DDOT finalizes its rulemaking on the AV testing, the Council passed the Autonomous Vehicle Testing Permit Requirement Temporary Amendment Act of 2024, effective June 1, 2024 (D.C.

33 Law 25-0168; 71 DCR 6999) (“temporary legislation”). The temporary legislation is set to expire  
34 on January 12, 2025.

35 (c) The Public Life and Activity Zones Amendment (“PLAZA”) Act of 2024, as approved  
36 by the Committee on Transportation and the Environment on November 25, 2024 (Committee  
37 print of Bill 25-577) (“permanent law”) incorporates and makes permanent provisions from the  
38 temporary legislation. If approved by the Council, the permanent law will not take effect before  
39 the expiration of the temporary legislation.

40 (d) Without these provisions in place, DDOT cannot conduct proper oversight over AV  
41 operations in the District, presenting safety challenges for all roadway users.

42 (e) This second round of emergency legislation is necessary to prevent a gap in the law  
43 between the expiration of the temporary legislation and the effective date of the permanent law.

44 Sec. 3. The Council finds that the circumstances enumerated in section 2 constitute  
45 emergency circumstances making it necessary that the Autonomous Vehicle Testing Permit  
46 Requirement Second Emergency Amendment Act of 2024 be adopted after a single reading.

47 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.