

CONTEMPORARY HISTORICAL VEHICLE ASSOCIATION Inc.
OLD CARS AND NEW LAWS
PLUS WHAATSUUP HERE AND THERE



By Larry Becker

According to a survey by Airconic, (research company), 55% of Americans believe flying cars will exist in the next fifty years. Self-driving car proto-types appear to be getting better at negotiating California streets and highways without a human backup driver intervening according to data made public by California transportation regulators.

According to a survey by Inrix (survey company), Los Angles is the most congested city in the world, followed by Moscow, New York City and San Francisco. The average California driver wasted 106 hours sitting in gridlock during the busiest commuting times last year and lost \$2,408 each in squandered fuel and productivity. Los Angeles did approve Measure M in November, a \$120 billion plan aimed at updating transit infrastructure. Drivers also lost money in other cities due to congestion, but Los Angeles was the worst. Parkersburg, West Virginia is the least congested city in the U.S. Half of the most congested cities in the world are in the U,S. The survey did not have information on congestion in China and Japan.

Not all of the following state laws are laws at this time. They have recently been introduced and are currently under consideration by the respective legislatures.

ARIZONA

An effort by insurance companies to remove a requirement that they provide optional free glass replacement with full coverage auto policies appears dead in Arizona. Insurance companies complain that zero-deductible has led to overuse and fraud.

CALIFORNIA

SB 179 would allow people in California to opt out of listing their sex as male or female and choose other for state IDs and state driver's licenses.

San Diego and Contra Costa Counties have been selected by the Feds as a National Automated Vehicle Proving Ground.

Due to a big increase by wrong-way drivers, highway officials have loaded up a handful of freeway ramps in Sacramento and San Diego with blinking lights, six-foot tall "Wrong Way" signs, red pavement reflectors and cameras warning drivers they're about to hit the freeway in the wrong lane. The state will expand use of the strategies if they prove useful.

FLORIDA

Legislation has been introduced to require new-car dealers to provide purchasers a written statement declaring it is illegal for manufacturers or dealers to void a warranty because aftermarket parts or recycled parts were installed or because someone other than the dealer performed service.

HAWAII

Legislation to provide that no motor-vehicle muffler or exhaust system shall emit a noise level greater than 60 decibels has been introduced.

Legislation has been reintroduced to increase the annual registration fee, increase the gas tax and increase the motor vehicle weight tax. Gov. David Ige wants the state to use the money from a settlement with VW to buy more state operated energy saving electric vehicles Ige says Oahu, Maui and Hawaii Island get 25% of their energy needs from renewable sources and Kauai gets 40%.

IDAHO

State officials have put together a \$450,000 emergency repair project when pavement on Interstate 90 broke apart this winter. The Spokesman Review reports that the State Transportation Dept. patched the cracks over two nights in late January.

ILLINOIS

Secretary of State Jessie White is asking state lawmakers to allow advertising on vehicle registration reminders that are mailed out to millions of homes each year.

INDIANA

Legislation to require all motor vehicles to be equipped with a factory installed or equivalent aftermarket muffler has been introduced. Current state law already requires the exhaust system to be in “a constant operation to prevent excessive or unusual noise”.

IOWA

Legislation to broaden the single-plate allowance to include motor vehicles, which are 30 years old or older, and reconstructed or specialty built to resemble motor vehicles which are 30 model years old or older, has been introduced.

A lawsuit seeks to stop Des Moines from taking state income tax refunds to pay traffic camera violation fines.

KENTUCKY

A House Concurrent Resolution has been introduced to create a mileage-based transportation funding task force to determine the feasibility of implementing a road-user fee instead of the gas tax. The resolution would require the mileage-based Transportation Funding Task force to submit its findings, recommendations and any proposed legislation by Dec. 2017.

MAINE

Maine lawmakers are considering a measure to let police use red and blue lights when pulling over motorists. Police say studies have found that the human eye can see flashing red lights better,

MARYLAND

Legislation to prohibit the state of Maryland or a local jurisdiction from imposing a vehicle miles traveled tax or other similar fees, tolls or taxes has been introduced.

MISSISSIPPI

State lawmakers are considering ways to stop “pokey” drivers from clogging up the left lane on highways in the state. Proposed legislation would set a fine of \$5 to \$50 for people who impede traffic.

MISSOURI

Legislation has been introduced to require the issuance of only a single license plate for motor vehicles. If enacted, into law, the measure would accommodate registered owners eligible to receive a second plate. Certain property-carrying commercial motor vehicle applicants can request two plates

NEVADA

A study of autonomous driving technology will use electric buses in three Nevada cities, Sparks, Reno and Carson City. The buses will still have drivers who will be collecting data on pedestrians, bikers, other vehicles and traffic lights

NEW JERSEY

Police in Newark say that 22% of cars stolen in 2016 were left unattended with the engine running. Police say it is best to warm the vehicle up without leaving it unattended.

NEW YORK

Legislation has been introduced in the Assembly to provide that historical vehicle owners only pay a one-time fee of \$100 upon initial registration. The \$100 one-time fee would replace the current annual fee of \$28.75.

Legislation has been reintroduced to repeal the two plate license requirement and replace it with a one plate requirement'

Legislation to create a mileage-based user fee pilot program to be implemented instead of the gas tax has been introduced.

The state has spent more than \$8 million to install hundreds of "i Love NY" highway signs that federal highway officials say don't comply with federal regulations.

OHIO

Online registration has started for motorcycle riders education programs. Courses are planned around the state from March through November for people who want to ride a motorcycle or take a refresher on safety.

PENNSYLVANIA

Drivers are being told to expect delays for weeks because the Delaware River Bridge connecting Pennsylvania and New Jersey is shut down because of cracked steel trusses. Authorities say commuters should carpool or use public transit.

RHODE ISLAND

A bill has been introduced to require that the Rhode Island DMV issue or approve year of manufacture license plates for vehicles more than 25 years old, subject to certain conditions. In 2014, legislation to allow the state DMV to issue replica year of manufacture plates for antique vehicles was enacted into law, but did not define at what age “antique” was.

SOUTH CAROLINA

The director of the state’s Transportation Dept. says road deterioration is so bad that it will take a decade just to climb out of the maintenance hole. Director Hall says roughly \$28 billion is needed over the next 25 years.

Gov. McMaster is asking the federal government for \$5 billion to help repair the states crumbling roads and bridges. In a letter to President Trump. the Gov. said that he disapproves of raising the gas tax.

TENNESSEE

The Mount Carmel police chief is not happy. Speed enforcement cameras in the city will be deactivated at the end of March because of a 2015 state law prohibiting such contracts. The chief said the cameras reduced accidents.

Legislative leaders say rival proposals could sink efforts to address a \$10 billion backlog of road and bridge projects. The financing plan includes an increase in fuel taxes, using a portion of sales tax and taking general fund revenue.

WEST VIRGINIA

Gov. Justice on a tour of the state touted his highway construction proposals. He told a crowd in Slab Fork that tax increases for the plan would not be permanent and would only serve as a stop-gap measure.

WHAATSUUP HERE AND THERE

Uber has hired a NASA expert to help them develop flying cars. The project will take several years to develop.

He was thirsty!! A Nebraska road supervisor was fired after auditors alleged he exchanged asphalt millings for beer. The Lincoln Journal Star reports asphalt millings can be a substitute for gravel in driveways.

On an average, increasing the annual auto insurance deductible from \$500 to \$1,000 saves about 9% according to InsuranceQuotes and the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.



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