

CONTEMPORARY HISTORICAL VEHICLE ASSOCIATION, Inc.

OLD CARS AND NEW LAWS PLUS WHAATSUUP HERE AND THERE



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

ALABAMA

A proposed toll bridge over Lay Lakes is drawing concerns from some residents and environmentalists who worry about the noise and traffic.

ARIZONA

A 62-year old Phoenix driver was cited in the third week of January after trying to disguise a fake skeleton as a passenger just to use the HOV lane.

A state panel has proposed to ban nee fees on ride-sharing companies like Uber and Lyft at airports in the state.

CALIFORNIA

A driver was arrested, and jailed for DUI, was released on bail the next morning, but arrested again in the day for DUI again.

GEORGIA

The state Senate Transportation Committee has unanimously approved a bill that would define what an “electric scooter” is. The bill does nothing else. It leaves other regulations to local governments. Scooter laws vary state to state.

Demand for parking at the nation’s busiest airport, Hartfield-Jackson- Atlanta has declined with rise of Uber, Lyft and other ride-hailing services and the airport is shelving plans to rebuild its parking decks at the domestic terminal.

CONNECTICUT

Gov. Ned Lamont says he is dropping his plan for highway tolls for trucks, expressing his frustration with legislative leaders who have delayed a vote.

ILLINOIS

Red-light enforcement cameras, the center of an ex-state senator's guilty plea on federal bribery charges, will be banned in some suburban Chicago communities under legislation a House Panel approved on February 3rd.

IDAHO

The Director of the Dept. of Transportation says that state roads are becoming increasingly dangerous with distracted drivers and a growing number of motorists.

INDIANA

State road crews are getting specialized heaters to help with filling potholes.

KENTUCKY

State transportation officials will be out more than \$150,000 after losing a legal battle to a man who wanted to put "IM GOD" on his license plate.

Have you ordered one? The first 2020 Corvette rolled off the assembly line at GM's assembly lines in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

MICHIGAN

Allies of Gov. Whitmer have spent \$750,000 in TV ads to support her plan to borrow \$3.5 billion to roughly double construction spending on state-owned roads and bridges over the next five years.

The Gov. announced that the state will have a mobility officer to coordinate all initiatives related to self-driving and connected cars.

MISSOURI

State Lawmakers have voted to make grants available for potential builders of an ultrafast Hyperloop test track.

MONTANA

The state has revoked 85 specialty license plates, that have not been chosen or renewed by at least 400 drivers in the previous year.

NEVADA

Vehicle parking became more expensive at McCarran International Airport as they raised their rates, the first increase since 2013.

Interstate 15 crossing southern Nevada from California to Arizona became the first route in the western U.S. designated as an electric vehicle corridor with charging stations available every 50 miles state officials say. The State Dept. of Transportation says an average fee for a charge will be \$4.50.

Workers have completed the first of two underground tunnels for a system to whisk passengers between exit halls at an expanded Las Vegas Convention Center, tourism and project officials announced in February. The \$52.5 million people mover, is slated to be finished by the end of 2020. The project is being built by Elon Musk's company, The Boring Co.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

The State Senate has given preliminary approval to legislation that would allow New Hampshire's participation in a state-to-state driver information program.

NEW JERSEY

A motorcyclist cited for turning his license plate upside down because he thought it looked "cool" has lost another bid to have the ticket canceled.

Drivers whose licenses are nearing expiration will be able to get REAL ID cards without an appointment, state officials announced on Feb. 2nd.

NEW YORK

Drivers who get 5 camera-issued red-light tickets or 15 camera -issued speeding tickets in a 12-month period will have to take a traffic safety course or risk losing their vehicles under a bill signed by Mayor Bill de Blasio.

New York City is considering using traffic-camera violations to curb reckless driving by requiring frequent violators to attend a safety course.

NORTH DAKOTA

Officials in the heart of the oil patch are turning to drones to make better decisions about whether to restrict traffic on gravel roads. This spring, pilots will fly drones over McKenize County roads after rainy weather.

Transportation officials say 100 people were killed on state roadways in the state in 2019 – the lowest number in 15 years.

NORTH CAROLINA

The state Dept. of Transportation is asking residents to advise them what projects they want funded over the next 10 years.

OHIO

Gov. DeWine is backing legislation that makes distracted driving reason enough to pull over someone. The bill defines distracted driving as writing, sending or looking at texts, watching or recording photos or videos, or viewing streaming while handling an electric device, among other activities.

OHIO

Gov. DeWine has signed a bill under which motorcyclists in the state will be allowed to wear earphones or earplugs while riding to ward off hearing loss.

OKLAHOMA

City crews in Oklahoma City uncovered 28 rentable Line-S electric scooters in the mile long Bricktown Canal after draining 3 million gallons of water.

OREGON

Rockslides triggered by unrelenting rain closed many roads and highways across the state in the last week of January.

Sales of the state's new gray whale license plate have raised about \$300,000 for Oregon State University's Marine Institute in less than a year.

The city of Portland intentionally allows drivers to park vehicles illegally close to crosswalks and intersections, making it difficult and potentially deadly to navigate the city, a lawsuit filed the third week of February says.

RHODE ISLAND

A bill introduced in the house would require safety barriers or netting on bridges that connect islands to the mainland.

SOUTH DAKOTA

The state Senate has approved a bill that would allow the state to offer a written driver's license in Spanish.

VERMONT

The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission is heading a study looking at possible changes in the busy Interstate 89 corridor in the area.

WYOMING

Gov. Gordon announced legislation that would allow him to enter into negotiations to purchase more than 1,500 square miles along Interstate 80.

WHAATSUUP HERE AND THERE

VW has kept its lead as the world's largest automaker after Japanese rival Toyota, announced it sold fewer cars last year.

Mercedes has unveiled a new luxury pop-up camper, which they say is great for weekends. The cost is \$27,000 to \$35,000 plus a \$1195 delivery fee. Options include solar panels to provide off-grid power, 200 exterior color options, an awning, screens, a tent attached to the rear lift-gate, roof racks and a pullout rear kitchen and a few more.

Tesla's future is looking brighter than ever after more than a 80% surge in the company's stock this year has made it the second-most valuable automaker in the world. The only problem is that the National Highway Safety Administration is reviewing accident reports on problems with Tesla's auto pilot systems. Tesla states that new Model S is edging close to 400 miles on a single charge. Electric automaker, Lucid, announced that its vehicles are reaching 400 miles on a single charge.

Trivia facts: Henry Ford's first venture, the Detroit Automobile Company (1904) , but was disbanded after stockholders doubted Ford's ability to create a successful product. After securing another investor, he produced the Model T in 1908, a vehicle that revolutionized modern transportation.

The Los Angeles Fire Dept. announced the purchase of an electric fire truck for \$1.1 million. The truck, to be built by Rosebaur of Atlanta will be delivered in early 2021. The truck will be able to be lowered about 3 inches or raised when necessary. The truck will be colored Lime Green instead of the usual red color.

The city of Menlo Park (near San Francisco) had ordered one earlier, but the City Council cancelled the order due to the cost.

Ford said they will unveil their new 2021 Bronco later this year. A Bronco Sport model will be arriving in early 2021 and a smaller crossover model will be introduced in April of 2021.

Toyota said they will built AWD Camrys and Avalons for the snowy North American market. The AWD Camry will arrive in early spring of 2021 and the AWD Avalon will be available in the fall of 2021. They also announced a new Hatchback model of the Yaris, but not be sold in the U.S.

Cadillac will unveil a new crossover electric vehicle at the National Auto Dealers Show in March or April. Not many details are available at this time.

General Motors is exiting Australia, New Zeland and Thailand to save costs in the underperforming markets and better focus on growth markets as well as its electric vehicles and self-driving strategies, but will not affect t U.S. productions.

J.D. Power's 2020 survey ranks the Lexus as the number one vehicle for dependability. They also listed 9 other vehicles as dependable, but Consumer Reports released a list of best new vehicles for 2020 and the ratings vary.

Nissan is starting a subscription service that allows members to switch to a different Nissan vehicle every day if they want. They are testing the plan in Houston. The cost is \$495 to join and \$695 per month. Lexus, Audi, Volvo and Mercedes Benz have similar subscription programs.

Most automakers have added several safety features to their vehicles over the past few years, but each company has their own name for the feature. According to AAA, there are 20 different names of adaptive cruise control, which uses other sensors, to automatically maintain the distance from the vehicle ahead, accelerate, and brake on the highway. There are 40 names for automatic emergency braking. Automakers, Consumer Reports, J.D. Powers, the National Safety Council and the U.S. Dept. of Transportation are working to end the confusion by using a standard name for the devices.

Some experts say that self-driving cars could become our living room someday. You will sit at a table, under ambient lighting, getting help from voice assistants as you stretch out your legs in reclining seats and enjoy your drive, but it may be many, many years before it is possible.



LARRY BECKER

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