Policy Rundown

For ITS America Advocacy Trust and Innovation Trust

Federal Administration Policy and Regulatory News

*ITS America’s Op/Ed “The Road to the Next Generation of Mobility” by President & CEO Regina Hopper*

As the nation marks “National Infrastructure Week,” ITS America is taking a lead role to explain the urgent need to include Intelligent Transportation systems as we begin to rebuild our country’s highways, bridges and roads. ITS America President and CEO Regina Hopper outlined our goals in this Op/Ed published Sunday in the highly-respected and much-read publication “The Hill.”

Read Article

Legislative News

*Trump Infrastructure Plan Expected In the Coming Weeks*

On Monday, May 15, U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao told an audience of infrastructure stakeholders gathered at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce for the kick off of Infrastructure Week 2017, including ITS America’s public policy team, that the Trump “Administration will share its vision of what the infrastructure plan will look like in the next several weeks.” Furthermore, confirming reports that the Administration would send the Congress an outline of
their priorities, and that Congress would draft the plan, Secretary Chao said that it would kick off their "collaboration with Congress" on the infrastructure proposal. Here are the highlights:

- The plan would provide $200 billion in federal funding, which would generate $1 trillion in private investment.
- States and localities that have identified their funding "will be given higher priority access to new federal funds."
- The plan would not include a one-size-fits-all approach and that there would be a plan for rural infrastructure and a plan for urban infrastructure.
- The plan would contain “a few special projects” that would receive only direct federal funds... these projects would have the potential to increase GDP growth

**Important Briefing Scheduled with House Staff on Draft AV Bills**

ITS America will host an important briefing for the Advocacy Trust and Innovation Trust at 10:45 a.m. this Thursday, May 18, with the majority staff to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection on draft bills designed to facilitate the development, testing, and deployment of self-driving cars. Advocacy Trust and Innovation Trust members will receive the conference call information in a separate email before the call. Below is a high-level summary of this bills:

*Practical Autonomous Vehicle Exemptions Act of 2017* expands the authority of the Secretary to grant FMVSS exemptions.

*Renewing Opportunities for Autonomous Vehicle Development Act* establishes renewals for FMVSS exemptions.

*Disability Mobility Advisory Council Act* focuses on mobility access for the disabled community.

*Improving Mobility Access for Underserved Populations and Senior Citizens Advisory Council Act* focuses on mobility
access for populations underserved by public transit and senior citizens.


*Maximizing Opportunities for Research and the Enhancement of AVs Act* extends the authority in 49 U.S.C. 30112(b) to test motor vehicles that are not in compliance with FMVSS to manufacturers and distributors of motor vehicle equipment.

*Increasing Information and Notification to Foster Openness Regarding Autonomous Vehicle Matters to States Act* directs NHTSA to notify the appropriate State authority when a highly autonomous vehicle is exempt from FMVSS for testing and deployment purposes in that State.

*Designating Each Car’s Automation Level Act* directs manufacturers to post information regarding the vehicle’s automation level next to crashworthiness and crash avoidance information on stickers.

*Expanding Exemptions to Enable More Public Trust Act* expands the Secretary’s authority to exempt motor vehicles from FMVSS on the basis that the exemption would promote public adoption and acceptance.

*Managing Government Efforts to Minimize Obstruction Act* directs the FTC and NHTSA to develop an MOU regarding the oversight of vehicles pertaining to privacy and cybersecurity.

*Testing Enables Safer Technology Act* prohibits States from prescribing any standard or regulation on highly autonomous vehicles that are being tested in the State as it relates to the design, construction, performance or durability; and the presence of a human driver in a highly autonomous vehicle.

*Sharing Autonomous Vehicle Records with Everyone for Safety Act* establishes a Federal Advisory Committee to develop a framework that allows for the sharing of event, incident, and crash data among manufacturers.
Focusing Our Resources Wisely & Avoiding Retroactive Decisions Act establishes that NHTSA may only require the submission of a Safety Assessment Letter for vehicles designated as Level 3, Level 4, or Level 5.

Pre-Market Approval Reduces Opportunities for More People to Travel Safely Act establishes that the Secretary shall not institute a pre-market approval or pre-certification process.

Guarding Automakers Against Unfair Advantages Reported in Public Documents Act requires that information submitted to NHTSA by a manufacturer of a highly autonomous vehicle or highly autonomous vehicle equipment be treated as confidential business information.

Let NHTSA Enforce Autonomous Vehicle Driving Regulations Act establishes NHTSA as the sole regulatory authority responsible for prescribing motor vehicle safety standards.

“The Road Ahead: The Next Generation of Mobility” Summer Roundtable Series

ITS America will lead a series of policy roundtables this summer on how advanced transportation technologies driven by automation, artificial intelligence, wireless communications, and cloud computing are shaping public policy and changing the way people and goods move in cities, metropolitan areas, and states.

From connected and autonomous vehicles and infrastructure to “sharing economy” mobility, the ITS America roundtables will help policymakers at federal, state, and city levels of government locate the balance that fosters dynamic innovation while serving as a catalyst for safe testing and deployment of advanced transportation technologies. Topics include:

“States’ Perspective on Potential Federal Preemption of the Testing and Deployment of Highly Autonomous Vehicle”

“Protecting Transportation Infrastructure and Systems from Cyber Security Threats: Understanding the Threat”
and Recommendations from ITS America’s Cyber Security Task Force”

“How Cities and Metro Areas Are Preparing for Connected and Autonomous Vehicles”

Dates, times and locations for ITS America summer roundtables will be announced in the coming weeks. For more information contact our Vice President of Legislative Affairs Ron Thaniel at rthaniel@itsa.org

The Week Ahead on the Hill

Tuesday, May 16

Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works Subcommittee hearing on "Leveraging Federal Funding: Innovative Solutions for Infrastructure."

3:15 PM EDT
406 Dirksen Senate Office Building

Wednesday, May 17

Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works hearing on "Improving America’s Transportation Infrastructure: The Road Forward."

10:00 AM EDT
406 Dirksen Senate Office Building

Thursday, May 18

House Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Committee Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies hearing on "Emerging Transportation Technologies."

10:00 AM EDT
2358-A Rayburn House Office Building

Thursday, May 18
Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Development hearing on Domestic and International Policy Update

10:00 AM EDT
Dirksen Senate Office Building, Room 538

Thursday, May 18

Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee holds an executive session to consider six legislative measures, including Coast Guard Reauthorization.

10:00 AM EDT
Senate Hart Building 216

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