

**House File 2375 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2375  
BY GOSA

**A BILL FOR**

- 1 An Act relating to conventional human drivers physically present
- 2 in certain driverless-capable vehicles, and making penalties
- 3 applicable.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 321.515, subsection 1, unnumbered  
2 paragraph 1, Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

3 A driverless-capable vehicle may operate on the public  
4 highways of this state without a conventional human driver  
5 physically present in the vehicle, unless required under section  
6 321.515A, if the vehicle meets all of the following conditions:

7 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. **321.515A Conventional human driver —**  
8 **when required.**

9 A driverless-capable vehicle operating for commercial  
10 purposes, and not for personal use, shall not operate on the  
11 public highways of this state without a conventional human driver  
12 physically present in the vehicle. The conventional human driver  
13 must have the ability to monitor the vehicle's operation and, if  
14 necessary, intervene by taking over the operation of the vehicle  
15 manually, including but not limited to by stopping and shutting  
16 off the vehicle. A conventional human driver required under this  
17 section shall hold a driver's license and any endorsement that  
18 would otherwise be required for the operation of the vehicle,  
19 and shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws  
20 regulating automated and conventional vehicles.

21 EXPLANATION

22 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
23 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

24 Under current law, a driverless-capable vehicle is authorized  
25 to operate on the public highways of Iowa without a conventional  
26 human driver physically present in the vehicle if the vehicle  
27 meets all of the specified system and safety requirements.

28 This bill requires a conventional human driver to be  
29 physically present in a driverless-capable vehicle if the vehicle  
30 is operating for commercial purposes and not personal use.

31 Under the bill, a conventional human driver physically present  
32 in a vehicle operating in accordance with the bill must have  
33 the ability to monitor the driverless-capable vehicle's operation  
34 and, if necessary, intervene by taking over the operation of the  
35 vehicle manually, including but not limited to by stopping and

1 shutting off the vehicle.

2 In addition, the bill requires such a conventional human  
3 driver to hold a driver's license and any endorsement that would  
4 otherwise be required for the operation of the vehicle, and to  
5 comply with all applicable federal and state laws regulating  
6 automated and conventional vehicles. Under current law, special  
7 driver's licenses and driver's license types are required for  
8 the operation of different types of motor vehicles, including  
9 motorcycles, motorized bicycles, and commercial motor vehicles  
10 (CMV). In particular, a person generally must hold a commercial  
11 driver's license (CDL) to operate a CMV. A vehicle is considered  
12 a CMV based on the vehicle's weight, design, and use. While  
13 transporting certain passengers or loads, different types of  
14 special CDL endorsements are required.

15 By operation of law, a person who operates a motor vehicle  
16 that requires a driver's license commits a simple misdemeanor  
17 punishable by a scheduled fine of \$260 if the person does not  
18 hold a driver's license valid for the vehicle's operation (Code  
19 section 805.8A(4)).