



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB2974

Introduced 2/6/2025, by Rep. Curtis J. Tarver, II

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Illinois Autonomous Vehicle Testing Program Act. Provides that the Department of Transportation shall lead the Illinois Autonomous Vehicle Testing Program to promote the development, testing, and deployment of CAV technologies and related infrastructure and data needs with the State. Requires the Department to create a registration system with the State for entities wishing to conduct safe pilots or tests of CAVs. Provides that a participating entity in the Program shall maintain compliance with specific requirements. Provides that the Department shall make the notification form for testing entities available on the Program's website. Provides that the Department shall assist in the identification of appropriate communities to conduct testing. Authorizes the Department to suspend an entity's participation in the Program if there is clear evidence that the technology used by a particular vehicle or tested by a particular entity is unsafe for testing on public roads or violates the requirements of the Program. Provides that the Department shall submit to the Governor and General Assembly a report on the status of the Program on or before every December 31 and June 30. Effective January 1, 2026.

LRB104 08890 LNS 18945 b

1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Illinois Autonomous Vehicle Testing Program Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions. As used in this Act:

7 "Automated vehicle" means those vehicles equipped with
8 hardware and software that are collectively capable of
9 performing all the real-time operational and tactical
10 functions required to operate a vehicle under the conditions
11 for which the hardware and software were designed.

12 "Connected and automated vehicle" or "CAV" means either
13 automated vehicle or connected vehicle.

14 "Connected vehicle" means those vehicles that use wireless
15 communication to communicate and exchange information with
16 other vehicles, infrastructure, other devices outside the
17 vehicle, and external networks.

18 "Department" means the Department of Transportation.

19 "Program" means the Illinois Autonomous Vehicle Testing
20 Program.

21 Section 10. Responsibilities and authority of the
22 Department. The Department shall lead the Program to promote

1 the development, testing, and deployment of CAV technologies
2 and related infrastructure and data needs with the State. The
3 Department shall partner with other State agencies to:

4 (1) review CAV research, pilot projects, and federal,
5 State, and international action to identify best practices
6 regarding:

7 (A) vehicle testing;

8 (B) technology deployment;

9 (C) law enforcement collaboration;

10 (D) insurance coverage;

11 (E) liability determinations;

12 (F) data-sharing arrangements;

13 (G) privacy issues; and

14 (H) infrastructure needs;

15 (2) evaluate and address current laws, rules, and
16 regulations that may impede safe CAV and related
17 infrastructure testing, deployment, and operation;

18 (3) as appropriate, inform State agencies, partner
19 entities, and the public about the work of the Program and
20 its findings;

21 (4) pursue opportunities to make the State a leader in
22 the safe and efficient movement of goods and people by
23 means of connected and automated transportation;

24 (5) collaborate with industry experts on the latest
25 developments in CAV systems, cybersecurity, network
26 infrastructure, Internet of Things applications, and other

1 innovative areas;

2 (6) work with State agencies, local municipalities,
3 universities, private industry, and other stakeholders to
4 strengthen the responsible and anonymized collection,
5 sharing, and analysis of CAV-generated data to enhance
6 planning, operations, and maintenance throughout the
7 State;

8 (7) Work with State agencies, private industry,
9 advocacy groups, nonprofit organizations, local
10 communities, and other stakeholders to identify areas of
11 interest and potential pilot projects, especially relating
12 to improved safety and mobility for the elderly, disabled,
13 and underserved populations;

14 (8) develop and implement a plan to address changing
15 education and workforce training needs relating to CAV
16 technology development;

17 (9) identify economic development opportunities to
18 foster equitable job creation;

19 (10) identify public-private partnership
20 opportunities to increase efficiency in the transportation
21 network; and

22 (11) maintain an easily accessible website to provide
23 updates on the Program and other educational resources for
24 the public and interested stakeholders.

25 Section 15. Program registration.

1 (a) The Department shall create a registration system with
2 the State for entities wishing to conduct safe pilots or tests
3 of CAVs. The Department shall create and make accessible a
4 notification form that participants shall complete and file
5 each calendar year with the Department. The Department shall
6 have the authority to revise the form as new technology and
7 circumstances necessitate. Participating entities may
8 implement testing programs under the Program immediately after
9 providing notification to the Department and shall observe the
10 requirements provided in this Act.

11 (b) The current form shall require a participating entity
12 to annually provide the following information, in addition to
13 any other requirements established by the Department:

14 (1) the name and business address of the entity
15 intending to test CAV technology;

16 (2) identification information about the vehicle to be
17 used in testing, including the make, model, and license
18 plate number;

19 (3) the name, driver's license number, state of
20 issuance and contact information of any designated
21 operator the entity authorizes to operate a CAV during
22 testing;

23 (4) a summary of the training completed by vehicle
24 operators;

25 (5) the name of the municipalities or other areas of
26 the State where the entity intends to test CAVs; and

1 (6) certification of compliance with the requirements
2 provided by Section 15.

3 Section 20. Program requirements.

4 (a) A participating entity shall maintain compliance with the
5 requirements set out in this Section, in addition to any other
6 requirements established by the Department.

7 (a) The current form shall require the participating
8 entity to annually certify compliance with the following
9 requirements, in addition to any other requirements
10 established by the Department:

11 (1) for the testing program's duration, a driver
12 properly licensed to operate the vehicle shall occupy the
13 driver's seat and shall remain able to assume control of
14 the vehicle when required;

15 (2) for the testing program's duration, only a trained
16 employee, contractor, or other persons authorized by the
17 entity to develop CAV technology shall operate or monitor
18 all vehicles;

19 (3) each vehicle the entity tests shall comply with
20 all applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards and
21 with all Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
22 regulations, except to the extent exempted under
23 applicable Federal laws, and shall comply with all State
24 and local traffic and safety laws, including, but not
25 limited to, the Illinois Vehicle Code and local ordinances

1 pertaining to traffic safety; and

2 (4) each vehicle shall be covered by motor vehicle
3 insurance or other type of financial responsibility as
4 required by law.

5 Section 25. Notification form accessibility. The
6 Department shall make the notification form for testing
7 entities available on the Program's website.

8 Section 30. Testing locations. The Department shall, upon
9 request from an entity interested in participating, assist in
10 the identification of appropriate communities to conduct
11 testing. The Department may promote, on the Program's website,
12 any community, public agency, or academic institution's
13 interest in hosting or facilitating certain types of CAV
14 testing in order to partner private entities with communities
15 seeking to benefit from CAV innovations.

16 Section 35. Program suspension. The Department shall have
17 the authority to suspend an entity's participation in the
18 Program if there is clear evidence that the technology used by
19 a particular vehicle or tested by a particular entity is
20 unsafe for testing on public roads or violates the
21 requirements of the Program. Before a suspended entity is
22 permitted to resume participation in the Program, the entity
23 shall demonstrate to the Department that the technology shall

1 comply with the requirements of the Program.

2 Section 40. Program reporting. The Department shall submit
3 to the Governor and General Assembly a report on the status of
4 the Program on or before every December 31 and June 30. The
5 report shall include, but is not limited to, the following
6 information:

7 (a) the number of participating registrants;

8 (b) the dispersion and locations of testing across the
9 State;

10 (c) any obstacles that have delayed or may potentially
11 delay achieving the goals of the Program;

12 (d) any applicable analytics relating to the Program; and

13 (e) recommendations for any laws, policies, or rules that
14 may benefit the Program and advance further development and
15 use of CAV technologies in Illinois.

16 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January
17 1, 2026.