



# CALIFORNIA CONTRACT CITIES ASSOCIATION



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February 23, 2024

Senator María Elena Durazo  
Chair, Senate Local Government Committee  
State Capitol, Room 407  
Sacramento, CA 95814

CC: Senators Kelly Seyarto, Brian Dahle, Steven M. Glazer, Nancy Skinner, Aisha Wahab, Scott D. Wiener, and Committee Chief Consultant Anton Favorini-Csorba

RE: Senate Bill 915 - Notice of Support, As Introduced 1/9/24

Dear Senator Durazo,

The California Contract Cities Association (CCCA) writes to express our support of Senate Bill 915, which would prohibit an autonomous vehicle service from commencing operation within a local jurisdiction until authorized by a local ordinance.

Over the last year there were numerous reports of autonomous vehicles malfunctioning in dangerous and life-threatening ways. Driverless vehicles hit pedestrians, blocked ambulances on the street, and caused enormous traffic congestion. Despite these recent events, State agencies like the California Public Utilities Commission and the California Department of Motor Vehicles have yet to implement permanent safety regulations that directly address the autonomous vehicle service issues.

Our organization is pleased to see Senator Cortese take a decisive step to confront the ongoing problems with SB 915, which ensures local governments have the ability to establish regulations for autonomous vehicles themselves. Notably, the bill states cities can levy service charges or fees to pay for the costs of carrying out an ordinance or resolution, allowing cities to obtain the necessary funding for ongoing regulatory oversight. CCCA welcomes this thoughtful approach, as it promotes local management over an issue that has a direct impact on local communities' public safety and welfare.

CCCA represents 80 cities throughout California. For more than 65 years, CCCA's mission has been to advance the benefits of the contracting model and strengthen local control. With collaborative governance as a focal point, CCCA has advanced its mission through education, advocacy, networking, and legislative access to protect and enhance the quality of life for more than 7.5 million residents. As a matter of policy, our organization supports and defends the rights of cities on policy issues pertinent to them. We thank you in advance for your consideration of our support of SB 915.

Yours in service,

Marcel Rodarte, Executive Director