

RESOLUTION NO. .

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 915 (CORTESE) THE AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE SERVICE DEPLOYMENT AND DATA TRANSPARENCY ACT

RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

WHEREAS, on January 9, 2024, Senator Dave Cortese introduced Senate Bill 915 which prioritizes local control in deployment of autonomous vehicle services by preventing deployment in a geographic location until a local government passes an ordinance authorizing operations; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 915 would empower local communities, maintain safety for pedestrians, passengers, and other vehicles, and establish a community-centered approach; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 915 would provide local governments with the authority to determine if and how self-driving vehicles operate in a given area through the enactment of local ordinances; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 915 would allow each local government to set up its own rules for self-driving vehicle services based on the community's unique needs, including rules governing fares on robotaxis, as well as caps on the number of autonomous service vehicles on the road, thus managing traffic and reducing the potential for injuries; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 915 has the support of the California Teamsters Public Affairs Council, California Conference Board of the Amalgamated, Transit Union, California League of Cities, and California Labor Federation; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 915 would require any policy adopted by a city, county, or city and county to include and consider: maximum rates for passenger fares (robotaxi), establishment of vehicle caps, establishment of data transparency, establishment of interoperability for emergency responders, a process of ensuring ADA accessibility, annual inspections for health and safety; and

WHEREAS, by allowing each city, county, or city and county to adopt a policy that addresses the unique traffic safety considerations for their community such as but not limited to topography, road condition, public transit interchanges, intersection accident data, safe routes to schools, limited access first responder emergency routes, natural hazard evacuation routes, all of which may be adversely affected by system malfunction or failure, for entry into the business of providing autonomous vehicle services SB 915 will go a long way towards repairing the flawed one size fits all approach that currently governs the deployment of robotaxis and similar services in California.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED, That the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo supports Senate Bill 915, “ The Autonomous Vehicle Service Deployment and Data Transparency Act”; authored by Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose) and principally authored by Assembly Member Freddie Rodriguez (D-Pomona), and directs the President of the Board to issue a letter in support of the bill.

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