

SB309 INTRODUCED



1 SB309
2 SLJKA88-1
3 By Senator Allen
4 RFD: Transportation and Energy
5 First Read: 08-Apr-25



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SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, the Department of Transportation may issue a permit to authorize an applicant to operate a vehicle whose weight, width, length, or height, or combination thereof, exceeds the statutory maximum limits.

This bill would provide that if an oversized vehicle is otherwise required to be permitted due to its weight, width, length, or height, the vehicle may not be operated by an automated driving system.

This bill would also provide that the statutory authorization for the operation of ADS-equipped vehicles does not impose any legal duty to upgrade any part of the state or local transportation network to accommodate such ADS-equipped vehicles.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to motor vehicles; to add Section 32-9C-12 to the Code of Alabama 1975, to provide restrictions on the use of oversized or overweight vehicles operated by automated driving systems; and to amend Act 2024-453, 2024 Regular



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29 Session, now appearing as Section 32-9C-6, Code of Alabama
30 1975, to further provide for the relation of ADS-equipped
31 vehicles to other laws and requirements.

32 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

33 Section 1. Section 32-9C-12 is added to Chapter 9C of
34 Title 32, Code of Alabama 1975, to read as follows:

35 §32-9C-12

36 Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the
37 contrary, the use of ADS-equipped vehicles and automated
38 driving systems is prohibited if the operation of the vehicle
39 otherwise requires a permit pursuant to Article 2 of Chapter
40 9, relating to the movement of oversized vehicles or loads.

41 Section 2. Act 2024-453, 2024 Regular Session, now
42 appearing as Section 32-9C-6, Code of Alabama 1975, is amended
43 to read as follows:

44 "§32-9C-6

45 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter or in
46 Chapter 9B and notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
47 operation of ADS-equipped vehicles and automated driving
48 systems is governed exclusively by this chapter.

49 (b) No state or local entity may impose requirements,
50 including performance standards, specific to the operation of
51 ADS-equipped vehicles, automated driving systems, or automated
52 commercial motor vehicles as defined in Section 32-9B-1,
53 except as specifically authorized by this chapter. Nothing in
54 this section shall be construed to repeal or in any way modify
55 Section 32-9-29.

56 (c) No municipality or other local or state entity may



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57 impose a tax on, or impose requirements on ADS-equipped
58 vehicles or automated driving systems, where the tax or other
59 requirement relates specifically to the operation of
60 ADS-equipped vehicles.

61 (d) Nothing in this chapter creates a legal duty or
62 otherwise requires the state or any county or municipality to
63 upgrade any part of its transportation network to accommodate
64 the operation of ADS-equipped vehicles or automated driving
65 systems."

66 Section 3. This act shall become effective on October
67 1, 2025.