How will Autonomous Mobility Impact People with Disabilities?

NCSL

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AVs: Reducing Transportation Barriers to Jobs

• The 40+ million Americans with disabilities are twice as likely to be unemployed

• People without access to personal vehicles earn a lower income and attain college degrees at lower rates

But . . .

• Transportation technology, such as AVs, can create greater opportunities for employment and community living for people with disabilities

• A 2017 report by the Ruderman Family Foundation finds that AVs could enable 2 million more people with disabilities to attain employment opportunities
AV and Disability Employment

✓ Just as the rapid increase in the availability of ICT has greatly increased the employment potential of PWD, the use of AVs will allow millions to get to workplaces, and thereby greatly expand their employment potential.

✓ If AVs are not accessible, however, an inequitable situation for some becomes worse. Just as inaccessible job application software tilts the playing field toward those applicants without disabilities, inaccessible AV will do the same, and PWD will far even further behind in the job market.
Guiding Principles

Focus on Universal Design

Inclusion of Disability and Senior Perspectives in Deliberations

Inclusive Licensing Laws

Common Sense Interpretation of Existing Disability Laws

Infrastructure Development Issues

Common Sense Insurance and Liability Policies