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November 19, 2021

California Public Utilities Commission  
CPED, AV Programs  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102

**RE: ASSEMBLYMEMBER BURKE'S RESPONSE IN SUPPORT OF CRUISE ADVICE LETTER**

Dear President Marybel Batjer and Commissioner Genevieve Shiroma:

Pursuant to General Order (GO) 96-B Rule 7.4, I hereby submit a response in support of Cruise's Advice Letter – 0001, Cruise Application for Driverless Deployment Permit – Tier 3 Advice letter submitted on November 5, 2021.

As a member of the Technology and Innovation Caucus in the State Legislature, I want to help continue California's role as a tech leader. Cruise's fully electric autonomous vehicles (AVs) which have been developed and tested on the streets of San Francisco are an excellent example of how California continues to change the world through advancements that help make society better, safer, and more sustainable. California has rightfully set high standards for AVs but companies like Cruise should be able to move expeditiously through the permitting process once they have met those standards.

According to the National Highway Traffic Administration, traffic fatalities increased over 18 percent in the first half of 2021. Studies show that 94% of auto accidents are due to human error. Advanced AV technology like Cruise's will greatly benefit California by dramatically improving traffic safety.

In addition to increased safety, Cruise's AVs are environmentally friendly and sustainable. Cruise is the only AV fleet that is comprised solely of EVs. This is consistent with California's goals to promote a cleaner future and combat climate change. The transportation sector is the largest source of GHG emissions, and most of those are from light-duty vehicles. Cruise will help meet the goals that California has adopted to increase zero-emission vehicles.

For the reasons stated above, I encourage the PUC to recognize the value of Cruise's technology and their commitment to safety and the environment, and the California economy. I urge the CPED AV Programs to expedite their review and consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Assemblymember Autumn Burke  
Assembly District 62

CC: CPUC Commissioners  
Doug Ito, Director of CPED  
AVPrograms@CPUC.ca.gov