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RESPONSE

SENATOR LENA A. GONZALEZ

THIRTY-THIRD SENATE DISTRICT

SENATE MAJORITY WHIP

CHAIR, SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

November 29, 2021

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

RE: SENATOR GONZALEZ' RESPONSE IN SUPPORT OF CRUISE ADVICE LETTER

Dear AV Programs:

Pursuant to General Order (GO) 96-B Rule 7.4, I hereby submit a response in support of Cruise's Advice Letter.

I write to submit this letter of support for Cruise's Advice Letter which seeks a CPUC Driverless Deployment Permit. As a Chair of the Senate Transportation Committee, I have a deep-rooted interest in creating a more sustainable and environmentally friendly transportation sector in the state. Cruise's focus on Electric Vehicles (EVs) and commitment to being environmentally friendly makes them a key part of the future of our transportation sector and therefore I encourage the CPUC to approve their application as quickly as possible.

Cruise's technology will serve Californians in multiple ways. First, its all EV/AV fleet is the only one of its kind. This dedication to renewable energy in our transportation sector is a key facet to achieving California's EV goals. Cruise's EV ridesharing model will help to remove internal combustion engines from California roads. This has an equity component as well as it provides low-income individuals access to EV technology that they may not otherwise have due to inability to afford a personal EV.

In addition, Cruise's technology offers significant upgrades in passenger safety and this California grown company has demonstrated a passion for passenger safety and sustainability. For them to successfully implement this vision, they must be allowed to operate in a ridesharing capacity. It is for these reasons that I write to support Cruise's application and I urge the CPED AV Programs to approve this application. California is currently in the midst of an effort to change its transportation sector to be more sustainable and environmentally friendly. In order to achieve these goals, we must partner with companies that share these same values.

Should you have any questions about this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached by email at senator.gonzalez@sen.ca.gov or by phone at (916) 651-4033.

Sincerely,



Lena Gonzalez
Senator, Senate District 33

CC: CPUC Commissioners
Doug Ito, Director of CPED

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