# +California to Approve Testing of Truly Driverless Cars



In this file photo, an Uber driverless car is shown in a garage in San Francisco, Dec. 13, 2016

By Bryan Lynn

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California is set to open its roads up for the first time to self-driving **vehicle**s with no human drivers.

The Department of Motor Vehicles **announce**d plans to allow testing on state roads later this year of truly driverless cars.

Until now, California has only allowed testing of **autonomou**s vehicles with a driver ready to take over if something goes wrong.

The proposed change would allow testing of vehicles with no **steer**ing **wheel** or **pedal** controls. However, any driverless vehicle being tested must be remotely controllable and able to stop itself in an **emergency**.

A hearing will be held next month to get public comments on the issue before the change can take effect. Officials say they hope the new rules can receive final approval by December.

The proposed rules open the path for self-driving cars to be widely sold and used throughout the state, officials said. Truly driverless vehicles could be available for sale in California as early as 2018.

The cars must also meet all **federal** safety requirements to be allowed on California roads.

The U.S. government released its own set of guidelines for driverless vehicles last September. Officials said the guidelines were intended to bring about a "responsible introduction" of autonomous technology in a "safe, clean, efficient" way.

California is the largest automobile market in the United States. Currently, 27 companies have **permission** to test autonomous vehicles on the state's public roads. These include major U.S. and foreign carmakers, as well as technology companies like Google and Uber.

Ride-sharing company Uber was forced to pull its test cars out of California last December after a **dispute** with officials over required **permit**s. Uber had **argue**d it did not need state permits for testing because its vehicles were not "fully autonomous."

But last week, Uber finally gave in to state officials and got the required permit to test its self-driving cars in California.

I'm Bryan Lynn.

Bryan Lynn wrote this story for VOA Learning English, based on reports from the Associated Press and Reuters. Hai Do was the editor.

California is set to open its roads up for the first time to self-driving vehicles with no human drivers.

加州将首次向不具备人类司机的无人驾驶车辆开放道路。

The Department of Motor Vehicles announced plans to allow testing on state roads later this year of truly driverless cars.

加州机动车管理局宣布计划允许真正的无人驾驶汽车今年晚些时候在州级公路上进行测试。

Until now, California has only allowed testing of autonomous vehicles with a driver ready to take over if something goes wrong.

到目前为止，加州只允许配备司机的自动驾驶车辆进行测试，如有出现问题，司机可以随时接管车辆。

The proposed change would allow testing of vehicles with no steering wheel or pedal controls. However, any driverless vehicle being tested must be remotely controllable and able to stop itself in an emergency.

拟议的改革将会允许没有方向盘和控制踏板的车辆进行测试。然而，进行测试的任何无人驾驶车辆必须可以远程控制，并且在紧急情况下可以自动停车。

A hearing will be held next month to get public comments on the issue before the change can take effect. Officials say they hope the new rules can receive final approval by December.

下个月将会举行一场听证会，征求公众对该问题的意见，然后改革方能生效。有关官员表示，他们希望这项新规可以在12月前获得最终批准。

The proposed rules open the path for self-driving cars to be widely sold and used throughout the state, officials said. Truly driverless vehicles could be available for sale in California as early as 2018.

有关官员表示，拟议的规则为无人驾驶车辆在该州的广泛销售和使用开辟了道路。真正的无人驾驶车辆最早2018年可以在加州销售。

The cars must also meet all federal safety requirements to be allowed on California roads.

这些汽车还必须满足所有联邦安全要求才能在加州上路行驶。

The U.S. government released its own set of guidelines for driverless vehicles last September. Officials said the guidelines were intended to bring about a "responsible introduction" of autonomous technology in a "safe, clean, efficient" way.

美国政府去年9月发布了自己的一套无人驾驶车辆准则。有关官员表示，该准则旨在以“安全、清洁、高效”的方式负责任地引入无人驾驶技术。

California is the largest automobile market in the United States. Currently, 27 companies have permission to test autonomous vehicles on the state's public roads. These include major U.S. and foreign carmakers, as well as technology companies like Google and Uber.

加州是美国最大的汽车市场。目前有27家公司获得许可在该州公共道路测试无人驾驶车辆，其中包括国内外的主要汽车制造商，以及Google和Uber这类科技公司。

Ride-sharing company Uber was forced to pull its test cars out of California last December after a dispute with officials over required permits. Uber had argued it did not need state permits for testing because its vehicles were not "fully autonomous."

汽车共乘平台Uber公司去年12月在同有关官员对所需许可证产生争议之后，被迫将该公司的测试车辆撤出加州。Uber公司认为它无需获得州级许可证，因为其车辆不是完全自主驾驶。

But last week, Uber finally gave in to state officials and got the required permit to test its self-driving cars in California.

但是上周，Uber公司终于向该州官员让步，并获得了在加州测试其无人驾驶车辆所需的许可证。

I'm Bryan Lynn.