Nebraska and Ohio are two of the latest states with new policies that signal a transportation future with many more autonomous vehicles in use. Nebraska’s LB 989, signed into law in April, allows for these vehicles to operate on state roads. The new law also prevents local governments from imposing its own performance standards or levying taxes specific to autonomous vehicles. Another provision in LB 989 allows for operation of an “on-demand driverless-capable vehicle network” — for example, a Lyft- or Uber-type service that uses driverless vehicles.

According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, Nebraska joins Michigan and nine other U.S. states in allowing for the full deployment of driverless cars.

In May, Ohio Gov. John Kasich signed an executive order that allows for testing of autonomous vehicles on any public road or highway in the state. “The sooner these vehicles are safely fine-tuned,” Kasich says, “the sooner they can make a significant reduction in the 40,000 traffic deaths we have in this country every year.” His order also creates a voluntary Autonomous Vehicle Pilot Program for local governments to work with companies in advancing related technologies.