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To: Interested Parties

Subject: Voters Want Congress to Apply the Brakes on Driverless Cars; And 74% Say They Would Not Ride in Them

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A new Public Policy Polling survey finds that voters surveyed in California, Florida, Michigan, and South Dakota have serious safety and privacy concerns when it comes to driverless car technology. Overall just 16% of voters in the 4 states say they would ride in a driverless car if it were available to them, compared to 74% who say they would not. 75% of voters say Congress should apply the brakes to driverless car technology until the technology is proven safe, compared to only 15% who think more driverless cars are needed on the roads.

Other key findings from the survey include:

- 79% of voters surveyed say they would be either very concerned or somewhat concerned for their safety as a passenger, pedestrian or bicyclist on the road if a driverless car service were operating in their area – including 56% who say they’d be “very concerned” - compared to just 6% who said they would not be concerned at all.
- Voters concerns go beyond just their physical safety – 79% of voters also say they’re very concerned or somewhat concerned about the security of data collected by driverless cars – including 56% who say they’re “very concerned”, and just 7% who say they’re not concerned at all.
- 75% of voters say they oppose victims or driverless car crashes being forced to bring their case in a private arbitration hearing, rather than a jury trial. Just 12% support forced arbitration with no right to a jury trial.
- Voters aren’t optimistic about driverless cars becoming safe enough for them to consider using anytime soon – 59% say they don’t expect they’ll be safe enough to consider using them in their lifetime, while just 30% think they will be.

PPP surveyed 2,374 registered voters in California, Florida, Michigan, and South Dakota from May 15-16, 2018. The margin of error is +/- 2.0%. The survey was conducted using automated telephone interviews for Consumer Watchdog.