Comment from E M

I am writing due to my concern about the issue of connected cars. I am generally opposed to mandating such technologies, for a couple of reasons.

The first is opportunity cost and diminishing marginal gains of such technologies. Every year cars are mandated to have a number of new technologies, some good, some mediocre, and some bad. This comes at a cost. Every one of these technologies might add just $20 or $40 per car but, taken together, they have caused car prices to balloon. The ability for car-to-car communication might very well increase safety in some small way, but cars are already historically safe and for many people that money might be better spent on other things, such as keeping the car well-maintained.

The second problem is privacy. We already cannot leave the house without constant tracking through ALPR, OnStar, and such. I do not want to be tracked. I do not want the government to store a record of my movements, in ways that can be facilitated by communication technologies. Where drivers do need meaningful regulation is in the area of privacy controls around this type of technology, to restrict both governments and private parties from using our data without our explicit approval.