

MOTOR VEHICLE LIGHT AMENDMENTS

2023 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Judy Weeks Rohner

Senate Sponsor: Ann Millner

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill requires a vehicle operator to have the vehicle's lights or lamps illuminated while the vehicle is being operated during certain times of day and driving conditions.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ requires a vehicle operator to ensure the vehicle headlights are illuminated while the vehicle is being operated on a highway any time from sunset to sunrise and at any other times the sun is not in plain view; and
- ▶ makes technical changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

41-6a-1603, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 412

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **41-6a-1603** is amended to read:

41-6a-1603. Lights and illuminating devices -- Duty to display -- Time.



- 28 (1) (a) [The] ~~↔~~ ~~[Regardless of the vehicle's automated light settings, the]~~ The ~~↔~~
 28a operator of a
 29 vehicle shall [turn on] ensure the lamps or lights of the vehicle are illuminated while the
 30 vehicle is being operated on a highway at any time [from a half hour after sunset to a half hour
 31 ~~before sunrise and at any other time when, due to~~]:
- 32 (i) from sunset to sunrise; ~~↔~~ ~~[and]~~ or ~~↔~~
 33 (ii) ~~↔~~ ~~[the sun is not in plain view, including when the following conditions are present:~~
 34 ~~——(A) insufficient light [or];~~
 35 ~~——(B) unfavorable atmospheric conditions[,]; or~~
 36 ~~——(C) when~~ ~~↔~~ persons and vehicles on the highway are not clearly discernible at a distance
 36a of
 37 1,000 feet ahead ~~↔~~ [:] due to:
- 37a (A) insufficient light; or
 37b (B) unfavorable atmospheric conditions. ~~↔~~
- 38 (b) The lights, lighted lamps, and other lamps and illuminating devices under
 39 Subsection (1)(a) shall be lighted as respectively required for different classes of vehicles,
 40 subject to the exceptions for parked vehicles under Section [41-6a-1607](#).
- 41 (2) Whenever a requirement is made as to distance from which certain lamps and
 42 devices shall render objects visible or within which the lamps or devices shall be visible, the
 43 provisions apply during the times specified under Subsection (1)(a) for a vehicle without load
 44 on a straight, level, unlighted highway under normal atmospheric conditions, unless a different
 45 time or condition is expressly stated.
- 46 (3) Whenever a requirement is made as to the mounted height of lamps or devices it
 47 shall mean from the center of the lamp or device to the level ground upon which the vehicle
 48 stands when the vehicle is without a load.
- 49 (4) A violation of this section is an infraction.