

TRANSPARENT MATERIALS ON MOTOR VEHICLE WINDSHIELDS

1999 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Sponsor: Katherine M. Bryson

AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; PROVIDING THAT NONTRANSPARENT MATERIALS MAY BE APPLIED TO THE LOWER LEFT-HAND CORNER OF A MOTOR VEHICLE'S WINDSHIELD WITHIN CERTAIN PRESCRIBED SPECIFICATIONS.

This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:

AMENDS:

41-6-149, as last amended by Chapters 2 and 7, Laws of Utah 1998

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

Section 1. Section **41-6-149** is amended to read:

41-6-149. Windshields and windows -- Tinting -- Obstructions reducing visibility -- Wipers -- Prohibitions.

(1) Except as provided in Subsections (2) and (3), a person may not operate a motor vehicle with:

- (a) a windshield that allows less than 70% light transmittance;
- (b) a front side window that allows less than 43% light transmittance;
- (c) any window, other than the windshield or a front side window, that allows less than 28% light transmittance;
- (d) any windshield or window that is composed of, covered by, or treated with any material or component that presents a metallic or mirrored appearance; or
- (e) any sign, poster, or other nontransparent material on the windshield, sidewings, side or rear windows of the motor vehicle except:
 - (i) a certificate or other paper required to be so displayed by law; or
 - (ii) the vehicle's identification number displayed or etched in accordance with rules made by the department.

(2) Nontransparent materials may be used:

- (a) along the top edge of the windshield in an area not to exceed three inches to right or

left of center of the windshield if the materials do not extend downward more than four inches from the top edge of the windshield; [or]

(b) in the lower left-hand corner of the windshield provided they do not extend more than three inches to the right of the left edge or more than four inches above the bottom edge of the windshield; or

[~~(b)~~] (c) in the lower left-hand corner of the rear window provided they do not extend more than three inches to the right of the left edge or more than four inches above the bottom edge of the window.

(3) A windshield or other window is considered to comply with the requirements of Subsection (1) if the windshield or other window meets the federal statutes and regulations for motor vehicle window composition, covering, light transmittance, and treatment.

(4) Except for material on the windshield or rear window used in compliance with Subsection (2), a motor vehicle with tinting on any window shall be equipped with rear-view mirrors mounted on the left side and on the right side of the motor vehicle to reflect to the driver a view of the highway to the rear of the motor vehicle.

(5) (a) The windshield on every motor vehicle shall be equipped with a device for cleaning rain, snow, or other moisture from the windshield. The device shall be constructed to be operated by the driver.

(b) Every windshield wiper on a motor vehicle shall be maintained in good working order.

(6) (a) A person may not have for sale, sell, offer for sale, install, cover, or treat a windshield or window in violation of this section.

(b) A person who violates this section is guilty of a class C misdemeanor.

(7) Notwithstanding this section, any person subject to the federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards, including motor vehicle manufacturers, distributors, dealers, importers, and repair businesses, shall comply with the federal standards on motor vehicle window tinting.