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RAILROAD CROSSING AMENDMENTS

2019 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Joel Ferry

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends provisions related to the operation of a train that blocks traffic at a railroad crossing in a high-traffic area.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

▶ prohibits a person or government agency operating a train from blocking a roadway at a railroad crossing if:

- the roadway has traffic of more than 5,000 vehicles per day, on average; and
- once five or more vehicles are waiting on the roadway in either direction of

travel during the switch operation, the switch operation lasts longer than 15 consecutive minutes; and

▶ makes technical changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

41-6a-1204, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 412



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

29 Section 1. Section **41-6a-1204** is amended to read:

30 **41-6a-1204. Trains -- Interference with vehicles limited.**

31 (1) [A] Except as provided in Subsection (2), a person or government agency may not
32 operate a train in a manner to prevent vehicular use of a roadway for a period of time in excess
33 of five consecutive minutes except:

34 (a) when necessary to comply with signals affecting the safety of the movement of
35 trains;

36 (b) when necessary to avoid striking any object or person on the track;

37 (c) when the train is disabled;

38 (d) when the train is in motion or while engaged in switching operations;

39 (e) when there is no vehicular traffic waiting to use the crossing;

40 (f) when necessary to comply with a governmental safety regulation; or

41 (g) as determined by a highway authority.

42 (2) A person or government agency may not perform a switching operation in a manner
43 that prevents vehicular use of a roadway if:

44 (a) the roadway has traffic of more than 5,000 vehicles per day, on average; and

45 (b) once five or more vehicles are waiting on the roadway in either direction of travel
46 during the switch operation, the switching operation lasts for a period of time in excess of 15
47 consecutive minutes.

48 [~~2~~] (3) A violation of this section is an infraction.