

# HB0120S01 compared with HB0120

~~{Omitted text}~~ shows text that was in HB0120 but was omitted in HB0120S01

inserted text shows text that was not in HB0120 but was inserted into HB0120S01

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**Tail Light Obstruction Amendments**  
2026 GENERAL SESSION  
STATE OF UTAH  
**Chief Sponsor: Scott H. Chew**  
Senate Sponsor: Kathleen A. Riebe

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill addresses vehicle lighting requirements relating to cargo carriers ~~{and bicycle racks}~~ .

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ prohibits operating a motor vehicle when a cargo carrier obscures required tail lights unless auxiliary lighting equipment ~~{or}~~ and reflectors are installed;
- ▶ establishes compliance requirements for operators;
- ▶ provides standards for auxiliary lighting equipment and reflectors;and
- ▶ ~~{establishes exemptions for certain vehicles; and}~~
- ▶ provides penalties for violations.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

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18 ENACTS:

19 **41-6a-1647** , Utah Code Annotated 1953

20

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

22 Section 1. Section **1** is enacted to read:

23 **41-6a-1647. Tail light obstruction prohibited -- Cargo carriers and bicycle racks.**

25 (1) As used in this section:

26 {~~(a) {"Bicycle rack" means any device attached to a vehicle for the purpose of transporting bicycles.}~~}

28 (b){~~(a)~~} "Cargo carrier" means any device attached to a vehicle for the purpose of transporting cargo, luggage, or equipment, including:

30 (i) a hitch-mounted cargo carrier;

31 {~~(ii) {a bicycle rack;}~~}

32 (iii){~~(ii)~~} a cargo tray; and

33 (iv){~~(iii)~~} a cargo basket.

34 (c){~~(b)~~} "Reflector" means a device designed to reflect light from another light source to provide visibility of the device.

36 (d){~~(c)~~} "Tail light" or "tail lamp" means the rear lighting equipment required under Section 41-6a-1603.

38 (2)

(a) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(b), an individual may not operate a vehicle to which a cargo carrier is attached on a highway if the cargo carrier obscures, obstructs, or blocks a required tail light such that the tail light is not clearly visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear of the vehicle.

42 (b) An individual may operate a vehicle as described in Subsection (2)(a) if the individual installs auxiliary lighting equipment {~~or~~} and reflectors in accordance with Subsection (3).

45 (3)

(a) If an individual operates a vehicle on a highway with a cargo carrier that obscures, obstructs, or blocks a tail light, the individual shall install auxiliary lighting equipment {~~or~~} and reflectors {~~installed~~} as described in Subsection (3)(b)and (c).

48 (b) An individual required to install auxiliary lighting or reflectors required under Subsection (3)(a) shall:

50 (i) mount or attach the auxiliary light {~~or reflector~~} onto the cargo carrier;

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- 51 (ii) ~~{if auxiliary lighting equipment is installed,}~~ ensure that the auxiliary lighting:
- 52 (A) is wired to activate simultaneously with the vehicle's standard tail lights and brake lights;~~and~~
- 54 (B) is red in color and visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the rear; and
- 55 (iii) meet or exceed the standards established by the Department of Public Safety under Section  
41-6a-1601{;}.:
- 57 (c) ~~{if reflectors are installed,}~~ An individual required to install reflectors as described in Subsection  
(3)(a) shall ensure that the reflectors:
- 58 (i) are red in color;
- 59 (ii) are visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the rear when illuminated by the headlights of a  
motor vehicle; and
- 61 (iii) meet or exceed the standards established by the Department of Public Safety under Section  
41-6a-1601{;or}.
- 63 ~~{(d) {install both auxiliary lighting and reflectors that meet the requirements of Subsections (3)(b) and~~  
~~(c).-}}~~
- 65 (4)
- (a) A violation of this section is an infraction punishable by a fine not to exceed \$100 for a first offense.
- 67 (b) A second or subsequent violation within three years is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$200.

64 Section 2. **Effective date.**

Effective Date.

This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.

2-24-26 7:56 AM