

Support HB 92: Transportation of Dogs Act

The Transportation of Dogs Act (H.B. 92) will strengthen the safety of Utah's transportation code by including a restriction on the dangerous transport of pet dogs in truck beds on Utah's freeways.

The Problem

Dogs not secured by crates or cross-tethered in the bed of a truck are distractions to drivers and can easily become road debris if they fall or jump out of the back of a truck. Distractions and debris can quickly become fatal for drivers on Utah's highways.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that over 3,000 people are killed in accidents due to distracted driving every year.* Additionally, approximately 9% of fatal traffic accidents involve a distracted driver (approximately eight per day in the U.S.).**

According to the Utah Department of Transportation, unsecured loads and road debris cause approximately 1,800 crashes in Utah each year.*** Under state law, a cargo load carried by a truck on Utah highways must be confined, secured, and fastened.**** If that cargo load is a dog loose in the back of a truck, however, there are no restrictions.

Due to the inherent danger in transporting pet dogs this way, more than a dozen states have legislation in place to limit this practice.

The Bill

What H.B. 92 bill does:

- Requires anyone transporting a pet dog on a truck bed on highways with a speed limit of 65 or over to cross-tether the dog or secure the dog in a fastened crate.
- Exempts agricultural working dogs from this restriction.
- Exempts hunting dogs from this restriction.



An unsecured dog rides on an open flatbed truck traveling at approximately 80mph on I-15 in Utah County in 2020. Video captured by a (distracted) passing motorist.

H.B. 92 will make Utah's freeways safer for Utahns AND our pets!

Please join the Utah Humane Society, the Utah Control Officers Association, Numerous Sheriffs, Police Chiefs, City and County Council Members, and thousands of members of the public in supporting H.B. 92.

*<https://www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/distracted-driving>
**https://www.cdc.gov/transportationsafety/distracted_driving/index.html
***<https://www.udot.utah.gov/connect/2021/07/27/keep-it-clean-utah>
****Utah Code Section 72-7-409