



UTAH
LEGISLATURE

Road Rage Amendments

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Defining Road Rage

- Creating a definition will enable better tracking and reporting
- **Line 358 (41-1a-1101)**
 - *"Road rage event" means the commission of a criminal offense:*
 - (a) by an operator or passenger of a vehicle;*
 - (b) in response to an incident that occurs or escalates upon a roadway; and*
 - (c) with the intent to endanger or intimidate an individual in another vehicle.*



Tow/Impound

- **Line 382 (41-1a-1101)**

(2) The division or a peace officer, without a warrant:

*(a) **may** seize and take possession of a vehicle when the division or the peace officer has probable cause to believe that an operator or passenger of the vehicle engaged in a road rage event; and*

*(b) **shall** seize and take possession of a vehicle when the division or the peace officer has probable cause to believe that an operator or passenger of the vehicle has engaged in a road rage event in which a firearm was used in furtherance of the road rage event.*

- If impounded: administrative impound fee of \$400 (matches fee for Reckless Driving, Speed contest or exhibition of speed)



Deadly Weapon

- Clarifies that a motor vehicle is a deadly weapon
- **Line 897 (76-1-101.5)**
(b) "Dangerous weapon" includes an automobile, a truck, a truck tractor, a bus, or any other self-propelled vehicle.



License Suspension/Revocation

53-3-220. Offenses requiring mandatory revocation, denial, suspension, or disqualification of license

Line 814

One Offense: Judge has the option to suspend license

Line 739

Two Offenses within 12 Months: Mandatory suspension
(DLD automatically suspends after 2nd conviction within 12 months)



Enhancement Approach

- A one-level enhancement for an individual who commits any crime in furtherance of road rage
- Increased penalties, including fines
- Would increase any level of offense up to the F2 or F3 level
 - A speeding or disorderly conduct infraction becomes a Class C Misdemeanor
 - Could be a Class C Misdemeanor with a higher fine to better address most micro-violations of road rage that don't end in felony conduct
 - Would enhance mid-level violations that might currently be charged as "Brandishing a Weapon" or "Assault"

Additional tools:

- Mandatory or discretionary tow
- Mandatory or discretionary driver license suspension ~~or additional points~~
- ~~Assault by motor vehicle as a new crime~~



November Update: Summary

- ✓ No new offenses – no attempt to criminalize expression or speech
- ✓ Selected “enhancement approach” to current criminal offenses
- ✓ Clarifies that a motor vehicle is a deadly weapon
- ✓ Clarifies when to tow/impound
- ✓ Effective date of July 1, 2024 (allow time for programming)
- ✓ Verbal agreement from DLD to update driver education curriculum and handbook on Aggressive Driving and Road Rage
- ✓ Worked with DLD: no impact on point assessment system
- ✓ Optional DL suspension on 1st offense, mandatory on 2nd (in 12 months)
- ✓ Update from UHP on Public Information Campaign plans



Questions?



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