

1                                   **TRANSPARENT MATERIALS ON MOTOR**

2   **VEHICLE WINDSHIELDS**

3   1999 GENERAL SESSION

4   STATE OF UTAH

5   **Sponsor: Katherine M. Bryson**

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

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

10 AMENDS:

11                   **41-6-149**, as last amended by Chapters 2 and 7, Laws of Utah 1998

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

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

14                   **41-6-149. Windshields and windows -- Tinting -- Obstructions reducing visibility --**  
15 **Wipers -- Prohibitions.**

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

18                   (a) a windshield that allows less than 70% light transmittance;

19                   (b) a front side window that allows less than 43% light transmittance;

20                   (c) any window, other than the windshield or a front side window, that allows less than  
21 28% light transmittance;

22                   (d) any windshield or window that is composed of, covered by, or treated with any material  
23 or component that presents a metallic or mirrored appearance; or

24                   (e) any sign, poster, or other nontransparent material on the windshield, sidewings, side or  
25 rear windows of the motor vehicle except:

26                   (i) a certificate or other paper required to be so displayed by law; or

27                   (ii) the vehicle's identification number displayed or etched in accordance with rules made

28 by the department.

29 (2) Nontransparent materials may be used:

30 (a) along the top edge of the windshield in an area not to exceed three inches to right or  
31 left of center of the windshield if the materials do not extend downward more than four inches  
32 from the top edge of the windshield; [or]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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**Legislative Review Note**

**as of 1-20-99 8:37 AM**

A limited legal review of this legislation raises no obvious constitutional or statutory concerns.

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**