

**CAMCORDER PIRACY OF MEDIA**

2007 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Kevin S. Garn**

Senate Sponsor: Gregory S. Bell

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill modifies Title 13, Commerce and Trade, by prohibiting the recording of a motion picture being displayed in a theater and providing criminal penalties.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ provides definitions;
- ▶ establishes the offense of using any ~~H~~→ camcorder or similar ←~~H~~ device to record or transmit a motion picture displayed in a motion picture theater;
- ▶ provides that the first offense is a class A misdemeanor and any subsequent violation is a third degree felony;
- ▶ provides for detention of the offender by the theater owner or employee while law enforcement is contacted;
- ▶ provides protection from liability for an employer or employee who in good faith detains a person; and
- ▶ exempts law enforcement and investigation operations acting within the motion picture theater.

**Monies Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

H.B. 279



28 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

29 ENACTS:

- 30 **13-10b-101**, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 31 **13-10b-102**, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 32 **13-10b-201**, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 33 **13-10b-301**, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 34 **13-10b-302**, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 35 **13-10b-401**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



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

38 Section 1. Section **13-10b-101** is enacted to read:

39 **CHAPTER 10b. UNLAWFUL RECORDING OF A MOTION PICTURE**

40 **Part 1. General Provisions**

41 **13-10b-101. Title.**

42 This chapter is known as "Unlawful Recording of a Motion Picture."

43 Section 2. Section **13-10b-102** is enacted to read:

44 **13-10b-102. Definitions.**

45 As used in this chapter:

46 (1) "Audiovisual recording function" means the capability of a device to record or  
47 transmit a motion picture or any part of the motion picture by means of any technology.

48 (2) "Motion picture theater" means a movie theater, screening room, or other venue  
49 that is being utilized primarily for the exhibition of a motion picture at the time of the  
50 commission of an offense under Section 13-10b-201.

51 (3) "Owner or employee" means the owner or lessee of a motion picture theater, or the  
52 authorized agent or employee of the owner or lessee.

53 Section 3. Section **13-10b-201** is enacted to read:

54 **Part 2. Penalties**

55 **13-10b-201. Unlawful recording of a motion picture -- Penalties.**

56 (1) It is unlawful for any individual to knowingly operate the audiovisual recording  
57 function of any ~~H~~→ camcorder or similar ←~~H~~ device in a motion picture theater:

58 (a) while a motion picture is being exhibited; and

59 (b) without the consent of the motion picture theater owner or operator.

60 (2) (a) A violation of this section is a class A misdemeanor.

61 (b) A second or subsequent violation of this section is a third degree felony.

62 Section 4. Section **13-10b-301** is enacted to read:

63 **Part 3. Detention and Immunity**

64 **13-10b-301. Detention of suspect by owner or employee.**

65 (1) Any owner or employee who has probable cause to believe that an individual has  
66 unlawfully recorded a motion picture under Section 13-10b-201 may detain the individual, on  
67 or off the premises of the motion picture theater, in a reasonable manner and for a reasonable  
68 length of time to:

69 (a) make reasonable inquiry as to whether the individual has in his possession a device  
70 that may reasonably be used in violation of Section 13-10b-201;

71 (b) request identification;

72 (c) verify the identification;

73 (d) make a reasonable request of the individual to place or keep in full view any device  
74 that the employer or employee has reason to believe the individual may have used in violation  
75 of Section 13-10b-201; and

76 (e) (i) inform a peace officer of the detention of the individual and surrender that  
77 individual to the custody of a peace officer; or

78 (ii) in the case of a minor, inform a peace officer, the parents, or the legal guardian of  
79 this detention and to surrender custody of the minor to the responding individual.

80 (2) An employer or employee may make a detention under Subsection (1) off the  
81 premises of the motion picture theater only if the detention is pursuant to the immediate pursuit  
82 of the individual that the employer or employee has reason to believe has violated Section  
83 13-10b-201.

84 Section 5. Section **13-10b-302** is enacted to read:

85 **13-10b-302. Immunity of owner or employee who contacts law enforcement.**

86 The owner or employee of a motion picture theater who advises a law enforcement  
87 agency of an alleged violation of this section is not liable in any civil action that arises out of  
88 detaining an individual under Section 13-10b-301 whom the owner or employee reasonably  
89 believes to have violated Section 13-10b-201, unless the plaintiff shows by clear and

90 convincing evidence that the measures were manifestly unreasonable or the period of detention  
91 was unreasonably long.

92 Section 6. Section **13-10b-401** is enacted to read:

93 **Part 4. Law Enforcement Actions**

94 **13-10b-401. Law enforcement functions exempt.**

95 This part does not prohibit any lawful investigation or collection of evidence by a  
96 federal, state, or local law enforcement or investigative agency by means of any audiovisual  
97 recording device used in a motion picture theater as part of investigative, protective, or law  
98 enforcement functions.

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**Legislative Review Note**  
**as of 1-12-07 3:49 PM**

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**