

REQUIRED HEADLIGHT USE ON VEHICLES

2007 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: John Dougall

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill modifies the Motor Vehicles Code to require the use of headlights when operating windshield wipers.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- requires the operator of a motor vehicle to illuminate the vehicle's headlights when operating windshield wipers; and
- makes technical changes.

Monies Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

41-6a-1603, as renumbered and amended by Chapter 2, Laws of Utah 2005

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

Section 1. Section **41-6a-1603** is amended to read:

41-6a-1603. Lights and illuminating devices -- Duty to display -- Time.

(1) (a) The operator of a vehicle shall turn on the lamps or lights of the vehicle on a



highway [~~at any time~~]:

(i) from a half hour after sunset to a half hour before sunrise [~~and at any other time~~];

(ii) when, due to insufficient light or unfavorable atmospheric conditions, persons and vehicles on the highway are not clearly discernible at a distance of 1,000 feet ahead[-]; and

(iii) when operating windshield wipers due to rain, snow, fog, or other atmospheric moisture.

(b) The lights, lighted lamps, and other lamps and illuminating devices under Subsection (1)(a) shall be lighted as respectively required for different classes of vehicles, subject to the exceptions for parked vehicles under Section 41-6a-1607.

(2) Whenever a requirement is made as to distance from which certain lamps and devices shall render objects visible or within which the lamps or devices shall be visible, the provisions apply during the times specified under [~~Subsection (1)(a)~~] Subsections (1)(a)(i) and (ii) for a vehicle without load on a straight, level, unlighted highway under normal atmospheric conditions, unless a different time or condition is expressly stated.

(3) Whenever a requirement is made as to the mounted height of lamps or devices it shall mean from the center of the lamp or device to the level ground upon which the vehicle stands when the vehicle is without a load.

Legislative Review Note

as of 11-15-06 3:25 PM

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel

Interim Committee Note

as of 12-15-06 9:21 AM

The Transportation Interim Committee recommended this bill.

H.B. 35 - Required Headlight Use on Vehicles

Fiscal Note

2007 General Session

State of Utah

State Impact

Enactment of this bill will not require additional appropriations.

Individual, Business and/or Local Impact

Enactment of this bill likely will not result in direct, measurable costs and/or benefits for individuals, businesses, or local governments.

12/22/2006, 10:37:46 AM, Lead Analyst: Ricks, G.

Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst