DRIVER LICENSE EMERGENCY CONTACT DATABASE

2012 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Marie H. Poulson

Senate Sponsor: Karen W. Morgan

LONG TITLE

Committee Note:

The Transportation Interim Committee recommended this bill.

General Description:

This bill modifies the Uniform Driver License Act by creating an emergency contact database for driver license and identification card holders.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

▸   requires the Driver License Division to create an emergency contact database for license certificate and identification card holders;

▸   provides that a law enforcement officer may share information contained in the emergency contact database with other public safety workers on the scene of a motor vehicle accident or other emergency situation;

▸   provides that a person holding a license certificate or identification card may provide the Driver License Division the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of no more than two emergency contact persons;

▸   requires the Driver License Division to make rules establishing the procedures to implement the emergency contact database;

▸   provides that if a person is involved in a motor vehicle accident or other emergency situation and is unable to communicate with the contact person or persons specified in the database, a law enforcement officer shall make a good faith effort to notify

28   the contact person or persons of the situation; and

29   ▸   specifies that the Driver License Division, a law enforcement officer, or a law

30   enforcement agency that employs a law enforcement officer does not incur liability

31   in connection with the use of the emergency contact database in certain

32   circumstances.

33   **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

34   None

35   **Other Special Clauses:**

36   This bill takes effect on July 1, 2012.

37   **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

38   ENACTS:

39   **53-3-205.6**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

40   ▬▬

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

42   Section 1. Section **53-3-205.6** is enacted to read:

43   **53-3-205.6. Emergency contact database.**

44   (1) (a) The division shall establish a database of the emergency contacts of a person

45   who holds a license certificate, learner permit, identification card, or any other type license or

46   permit issued under this chapter.

47   (b) Information in the database created under this section may only be accessed by:

48   (i) employees of the division;

49   (ii) law enforcement officers employed by a law enforcement agency; and

50   (iii) employees or authorized agents of a law enforcement agency.

51   (c) A law enforcement officer may share information contained in the emergency

52   contact database with other public safety workers on the scene of a motor vehicle accident or

53   other emergency situation, as needed to conduct official law enforcement duties.

54   (2) A person holding a license certificate, learner permit, identification card, or any

55   other type of license or permit issued under this chapter may provide the division, in a manner

56   specified by the division, the name, address, telephone number, and relationship to the holder

57   of no more than two emergency contact persons whom the holder wishes to be contacted by a

58   law enforcement officer if the holder:

59   (a) is involved in a motor vehicle accident or other emergency situation; and

60   (b) is unable to communicate with the contact person or persons.

61   (3) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the

62   division shall make rules establishing the procedures to implement this section including:

63   (a) specifying the method for a license certificate, instruction permit, or identification

64   card holder to provide the division with emergency contact information;

65   (b) specifying the method for a license certificate, learner permit, or identification card

66   holder to change the emergency contact information; and

67   (c) other rules required for the implementation of the database or its operation that the

68   division determines necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

69   (4) (a) If a person involved in a motor vehicle accident or other emergency situation is

70   unable to communicate with the contact person or persons specified in the database, a law

71   enforcement officer shall make a good faith effort to notify the contact person or persons of the

72   situation.

73   (b) A law enforcement officer or a law enforcement agency that employs a law

74   enforcement officer may not incur any liability if the law enforcement officer is not able to

75   make contact with a designated emergency contact person.

76   (c) Except for willful or wanton misconduct, a law enforcement officer or a law

77   enforcement agency that employs a law enforcement officer may not incur any liability relating

78   to the reporting or use of the database during a motor vehicle accident or other emergency

79   situation.

80   (5) The division is not liable for any damages, costs, or expenses arising or resulting

81   from any inaccurate or incomplete data or system unavailability.

82   Section 2. **Effective date.**

83   This bill takes effect on July 1, 2012.

Legislative Review Note
        as of 11-17-11 8:34 AM

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel