

## HB0020S01 compared with HB0020

~~{deleted text}~~ shows text that was in HB0020 but was deleted in HB0020S01.

inserted text shows text that was not in HB0020 but was inserted into HB0020S01.

**DISCLAIMER:** This document is provided to assist you in your comparison of the two bills. Sometimes this automated comparison will NOT be completely accurate. Therefore, you need to read the actual bills. This automatically generated document could contain inaccuracies caused by: limitations of the compare program; bad input data; or other causes.

Senator Todd Weiler proposes the following substitute bill:

### EMERGENCY VEHICLE OPERATOR DUTY OF CARE

#### REVISIONS

2014 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Brad L. Dee**

Senate Sponsor: ~~{~~ Todd Weiler }

---

---

#### LONG TITLE

~~{Committee Note:~~

~~—The Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Interim Committee recommended this bill.~~

~~}General Description:~~

This bill modifies ~~{Title 41, Chapter 6a,}~~ the Traffic Code ~~{,}~~ by amending provisions relating to the duty of care for an emergency vehicle operator.

#### Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ provides that the operator of an authorized emergency vehicle owes no duty of care to a person who is:
  - a suspect in the commission of a crime and evading, fleeing, or otherwise

## HB0020S01 compared with HB0020

- attempting to elude the operator of an authorized emergency vehicle; or
- in a motor vehicle with the suspect, unless ~~{that person can prove}~~ it is proven by a preponderance of the evidence that the person's presence in the motor vehicle was involuntary and the person's participation in evading, fleeing, or attempting to elude was involuntary;
- ▶ provides that an operator of an authorized emergency vehicle may be held liable for a fleeing suspect's injuries in certain circumstances;
- ▶ provides that if an operator of an authorized emergency vehicle complies with certain requirements while operating the authorized emergency vehicle, the operator shall be deemed to have met the operator's duty to act as a reasonably prudent emergency vehicle operator in like circumstances; and
- ▶ makes technical corrections.

### Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

### Other Special Clauses:

None

### Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

**41-6a-212**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 382

---

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

Section 1. Section **41-6a-212** is amended to read:

**41-6a-212. Emergency vehicles -- Policy regarding vehicle pursuits --**

#### **Applicability of traffic law to highway work vehicles -- Exemptions.**

(1) Subject to Subsections (2) through (5), the operator of an authorized emergency vehicle may exercise the privileges granted under this section when:

- (a) responding to an emergency call;
- (b) in the pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law; or
- (c) responding to but not upon returning from a fire alarm.

(2) The operator of an authorized emergency vehicle may:

- (a) park or stand, irrespective of the provisions of this chapter;

## **HB0020S01 compared with HB0020**

(b) proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down as may be necessary for safe operation;

(c) exceed the maximum speed limits, unless prohibited by a local highway authority under Section 41-6a-208; or

(d) disregard regulations governing direction of movement or turning in specified directions.

(3) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (3)(b), privileges granted under this section to the operator of an authorized emergency vehicle, who is not involved in a vehicle pursuit, apply only when:

(i) the operator of the vehicle sounds an audible signal under Section 41-6a-1625; or

(ii) uses a visual signal with emergency lights in accordance with rules made under Section 41-6a-1601, which is visible from in front of the vehicle.

(b) An operator of an authorized emergency vehicle may exceed the maximum speed limit when engaged in normal patrolling activities with the purpose of identifying and apprehending violators.

(4) Privileges granted under this section to the operator of an authorized emergency vehicle involved in any vehicle pursuit apply only when:

(a) the operator of the vehicle:

(i) sounds an audible signal under Section 41-6a-1625; and

(ii) uses a visual signal with emergency lights in accordance with rules made under Section 41-6a-1601, which is visible from in front of the vehicle;

(b) the public agency employing the operator of the vehicle has, in effect, a written policy which describes the manner and circumstances in which any vehicle pursuit should be conducted and terminated;

(c) the operator of the vehicle has been trained in accordance with the written policy described in Subsection (4)(b); and

(d) the pursuit policy of the public agency is in conformance with standards established under Subsection (5).

(5) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the Department of Public Safety shall make rules providing minimum standards for all emergency pursuit policies that are adopted by public agencies authorized to operate emergency pursuit

## HB0020S01 compared with HB0020

vehicles.

(6) ~~[The]~~ (a) Except as provided in Subsection (6)(b), the privileges granted under this section do not relieve the operator of an authorized emergency vehicle of the duty to act as a reasonably prudent emergency vehicle operator in like circumstances.

(b) The operator of an authorized emergency vehicle owes no duty of care under this Subsection (6) to a person who is:

(i) (A) a suspect in the commission of a crime; and

(B) evading, fleeing, or otherwise attempting to elude the operator of an authorized emergency vehicle; or

(ii) in a motor vehicle with the suspect described in Subsection (6)(b)(i), unless ~~that person can prove~~ it is proven by a preponderance of the evidence that:

(A) the person's presence in the vehicle was involuntary; and

(B) the person's participation in evading, fleeing, or attempting to elude was involuntary.

(c) (i) Notwithstanding Subsection (6)(b), an operator of an authorized emergency vehicle may be held liable for a fleeing suspect's injuries if the operator of an authorized emergency vehicle had actual intent to cause harm to the fleeing suspect in an act that was unrelated to the legitimate object of the arrest.

(ii) "Actual intent" under this Subsection (6)(c) means a malicious motive to cause injury, not merely an intent to do the act purportedly resulting in the injury.

(d) If an operator of an authorized emergency vehicle complies with the requirements described in Subsections (4) and (5) while operating the authorized emergency vehicle, the operator shall be deemed to have met the operator's duty to act as a reasonably prudent emergency vehicle operator in like circumstances.

(7) Except for Sections 41-6a-210, 41-6a-502, and 41-6a-528, this chapter does not apply to persons, motor vehicles, and other equipment while actually engaged in work on the surface of a highway.

†

**HB0020S01 compared with HB0020**

**Legislative Review Note**

~~as of 11-22-13 10:22 AM~~

~~Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel~~