

**Representative Mark A. Wheatley** proposes the following substitute bill:

**DISPLAY OF LICENSE PLATES**

2015 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Mark A. Wheatley**

Senate Sponsor: Gene Davis

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill modifies the Motor Vehicles code relating to license plates.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- requires that a license plate be maintained and displayed in a manner to be plainly readable from a distance of 100 feet during daylight.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**41-1a-403**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 1992, Chapter 1

**41-1a-404**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 106

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

Section 1. Section **41-1a-403** is amended to read:

**41-1a-403. Plates to be readable from 100 feet.**



26 License plates and the required letters and numerals on them, except the decals and the  
27 slogan, shall be of sufficient size and displayed in a manner to be plainly readable from a  
28 distance of 100 feet during daylight.

29 Section 2. Section ~~41-1a-404~~ is amended to read:

30 **41-1a-404. Location and position of plates.**

31 (1) License plates issued for a vehicle other than a motorcycle, trailer, or semitrailer  
32 shall be attached to the vehicle, one in the front and the other in the rear.

33 (2) The license plate issued for a motorcycle, trailer, or semitrailer shall be attached to  
34 the rear of the motorcycle, trailer, or semitrailer.

35 (3) Every license plate shall at all times be:

36 (a) securely fastened:

37 (i) in a horizontal position to the vehicle for which it is issued to prevent the plate from  
38 swinging;

39 (ii) at a height of not less than 12 inches from the ground, measuring from the bottom  
40 of the plate; and

41 (iii) in a place and position to be clearly visible; [~~and~~]

42 (b) maintained:

43 (i) free from foreign materials; and

44 (ii) in a condition to be clearly legible; and

45 (c) displayed in a manner to be plainly readable from a distance of 100 feet during  
46 daylight.

47 (4) Enforcement by a state or local law enforcement officer of the requirement under  
48 Subsection (1) to attach a license plate to the front of a vehicle shall be only as a secondary  
49 action when the vehicle has been detained for a suspected violation by any person in the  
50 vehicle of Title 41, Motor Vehicles, other than the requirement under Subsection (1) to attach a  
51 license plate to the front of the vehicle, or for another offense.