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FLASHING BRAKE LIGHT REVISIONS

2017 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Stephen G. Handy

Senate Sponsor: J. Stuart Adams

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill revises provisions related to continuously flashing light systems for supplemental stop lamps.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ revises the definition of "continuously flashing light system";
- ▶ removes the provision regarding the lock-out period after the release of the brake as relating to continuously flashing light systems; and
- ▶ makes technical changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

41-6a-1604, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapters 270 and 412

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

Section 1. Section **41-6a-1604** is amended to read:

41-6a-1604. Motor vehicle head lamps, tail lamps, stop lamps, and other lamps --



28 **Requirements -- Penalty.**

29 (1) A motor vehicle shall be equipped with at least two head lamps with at least one on
30 each side of the front of the motor vehicle.

31 (2) (a) A motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, and any other vehicle which is
32 being drawn at the end of a combination of vehicles, shall be equipped with at least two tail
33 lamps and two or more red reflectors mounted on the rear.

34 (b) (i) Except as provided under Subsections (2)(b)(ii), (2)(c), and Section 41-6a-1612,
35 all stop lamps or other lamps and reflectors mounted on the rear of a vehicle shall display or
36 reflect a red color.

37 (ii) A turn signal or hazard warning light may be red or yellow.

38 (c) Either a tail lamp or a separate lamp shall be so constructed and placed as to
39 illuminate with a white light the rear registration plate.

40 (3) (a) A motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer shall be equipped with two
41 or more stop lamps and flashing turn signals.

42 (b) A supplemental stop lamp may be mounted on the rear of a vehicle, if the
43 supplemental stop lamp:

44 (i) emits a red light;

45 (ii) is mounted:

46 (A) and constructed so that no light emitted from the device, either direct or reflected,
47 is visible to the driver;

48 (B) not lower than 15 inches above the roadway; and

49 (C) on the vertical center line of the vehicle; and

50 (iii) is the size, design, and candle power that conforms to federal standards regulating
51 stop lamps.

52 (4) (a) Each head lamp, tail lamp, supplemental stop lamp, flashing turn lamp, other
53 lamp, or reflector required under this part shall comply with the requirements and limitations
54 established under Section 41-6a-1601.

55 (b) The department, by rules made under Section 41-6a-1601, may require trucks,
56 buses, motor homes, motor vehicles with truck-campers, trailers, semitrailers, and pole trailers
57 to have additional lamps and reflectors.

58 (5) The department, by rules made under Section 41-6a-1601, may allow:

- 59 (a) one tail lamp on any vehicle equipped with only one when it was made;
- 60 (b) one stop lamp on any vehicle equipped with only one when it was made; and
- 61 (c) passenger cars and trucks with a width less than 80 inches and manufactured or
- 62 assembled prior to January 1, 1953, need not be equipped with electric turn signal lamps.

63 (6) (a) As used in this section, "continuously flashing light system" means a light
64 system for a supplemental stop lamp described in Subsection (3)(b) in which~~[(i)]~~ the stop
65 lamp or reflector pulses rapidly for no more than five seconds when the brake is applied and
66 then converts to a continuous light as a normal stop lamp or reflector until the time that the
67 brake is released~~[; and]~~.

68 ~~[(ii) the rapid pulsing described in Subsection (6)(a)(i) may not be repeated upon a~~
69 ~~subsequent application of the brakes for a lock-out time period of at least five seconds after the~~
70 ~~release of the brakes under Subsection (6)(a)(i).]~~

71 (b) A motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer may be equipped with a
72 continuously flashing light system.

73 (7) A violation of this section is an infraction.

Legislative Review Note
Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel