

**Senator Kevin T. Van Tassell** proposes the following substitute bill:

**JOINT RESOLUTION ON COMMERCIAL DRIVING**

2017 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Kevin T. Van Tassell**

House Sponsor: Mike Schultz

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This resolution of the Legislature describes a voluntary compact between contiguous states that permits commercial drivers who are 18 to 21 years old to operate a commercial motor vehicle in a contiguous state.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This resolution:

- ▶ describes a voluntary compact between contiguous states that permits commercial drivers who are 18 to 21 years old with a commercial driver license from a consenting state to operate a commercial motor vehicle in a consenting, contiguous state; and

- ▶ urges Congress to enact legislation permitting Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming to enter into a voluntary compact to establish a graduated commercial driver licensing program to allow drivers who are 18 to 21 years old with a commercial driver license from a consenting state to operate a commercial motor vehicle in a consenting, contiguous state.

**Special Clauses:**

None



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

WHEREAS, federal law requires drivers to be at least 21 years old to operate a commercial motor vehicle interstate;

WHEREAS, in Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming, drivers who are 18 to 21 years old may operate a commercial motor vehicle intrastate;

WHEREAS, commercial industry relies on the trucking industry to deliver the goods produced across state lines;

WHEREAS, it is difficult to recruit drivers who are 21 years old or older into the trucking industry when they have already started down another career path;

WHEREAS, in the next decade the trucking industry will face a severe shortage of drivers due to increased shipping demand and a high number of retiring drivers;

WHEREAS, the unemployment rate for the age group 18 to 21 years old is higher than that of other age groups;

WHEREAS, the safety performance statistics for passenger drivers who are 18 to 21 years old do not necessarily reflect the safety performance of the same age group for commercial drivers;

WHEREAS, the safety benefits of graduated licensing for young passenger vehicle drivers are well documented, and similar safety benefits may be possible with a graduated commercial licensing approach;

WHEREAS, a graduated commercial driver licensing program could include conditional lowering of the 21-year-old age minimum requirement to allow drivers who are 18 to 21 years old with a commercial driver license from a consenting state to operate a commercial motor vehicle in a consenting, contiguous state, as mutually agreed between the two states; and

WHEREAS, consenting to a voluntary compact between Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming will allow these contiguous states to establish a graduated commercial driver licensing program to allow drivers who are 18 to 21 years old with a commercial driver license from a consenting state to operate a commercial motor vehicle in a consenting, contiguous

57 state, as mutually agreed between the two states:

58       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah  
59 urges Congress to enact legislation permitting Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska,  
60 Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming to enter into  
61 a voluntary compact to establish a graduated commercial driver licensing program to allow  
62 drivers who are 18 to 21 years old with a commercial driver license from a consenting state to  
63 operate a commercial motor vehicle in a consenting, contiguous state, as mutually agreed  
64 between the two states.

65       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the legislative  
66 bodies of Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota,  
67 Oregon, South Dakota, and Wyoming; the Majority Leader of the United States Senate; the  
68 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives; and the members of Utah's  
69 congressional delegation.