

1 **VEHICLE PLATOONING AMENDMENTS**

2 2018 GENERAL SESSION

3 STATE OF UTAH

4 **Chief Sponsor: Wayne A. Harper**

5 House Sponsor: Kay J. Christofferson

7 **LONG TITLE**

8 **General Description:**

9 This bill modifies provisions of the Traffic Code related to safe following distance.

10 **Highlighted Provisions:**

11 This bill:

- 12 ▶ defines "connected automated braking system";
- 13 ▶ provides an exemption to a minimum following distance requirement for the
14 operator of a vehicle that is part of a connected automated braking system; and
- 15 ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

16 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

17 None

18 **Other Special Clauses:**

19 None

20 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

21 AMENDS:

22 **41-6a-711**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapters 277 and 412

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

25 Section 1. Section **41-6a-711** is amended to read:

26 **41-6a-711. Following another vehicle -- Safe distance -- Exceptions -- Penalty.**

27 (1) As used in this section, "connected automated braking system" means a system that



28 uses vehicle-to-vehicle communication to electronically coordinate the braking of a lead
29 vehicle with the braking of one or more following vehicles.

30 ~~[(1)]~~ (2) The operator of a vehicle:

31 (a) may not follow another vehicle more closely than is reasonable and prudent, having
32 regard for the:

33 (i) speed of the vehicles;

34 (ii) traffic upon the highway; and

35 (iii) condition of the highway; and

36 (b) shall follow at a distance so that at least two seconds elapse before reaching the
37 location of the vehicle directly in front of the operator's vehicle.

38 ~~[(2)]~~ (3) Subsection ~~[(1)]~~ (2)(b) does not apply to:

39 (a) funeral processions or to congested traffic conditions resulting in prevailing vehicle
40 speeds of less than 35 miles per hour; or

41 ~~[(b) a connected vehicle technology testing program that uses networked wireless~~
42 ~~communication among vehicles, infrastructure, or communication devices that is:]~~

43 ~~[(i) approved by the Department of Transportation in consultation with the Department~~
44 ~~of Public Safety; and]~~

45 ~~[(ii) conducted outside of an urbanized boundary as defined by the United States~~
46 ~~Census Bureau.]~~

47 ~~[(3) The Department of Transportation shall report the results of the testing program~~
48 ~~conducted under Subsection (2)(b) to the Transportation Interim Committee by no later than~~
49 ~~October 30 of any year that a testing program is conducted.]~~

50 (b) the operator of a vehicle that is part of a connected automated braking system.

51 (4) A violation of Subsection ~~[(1)]~~ (2) is an infraction.