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AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE AMENDMENTS

2020 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Karen Kwan

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill enacts provisions regarding the transportation of unaccompanied minors by a vehicle for hire operating in driverless operation.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ prohibits a vehicle for hire in driverless operation from transporting an unaccompanied minor under eight years old;
- ▶ requires a parent or guardian sign a waiver and provide emergency contact information;
- ▶ requires proper use of safety belts;
- ▶ requires certain monitoring and emergency notification technology; and
- ▶ requires the vehicle be in safe operating condition.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

41-26-109, Utah Code Annotated 1953

H.B. 414



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

Section 1. Section **41-26-109** is enacted to read:

41-26-109. Unaccompanied minors in an autonomous transport.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) (i) "Autonomous transport" means a vehicle for hire operating in driverless operation.

(ii) "Autonomous transport" includes the following, if operating in driverless operation:

(A) a limousine as that term is defined in Section [32B-1-102](#);

(B) a taxicab as that term is defined in Section [53-3-102](#);

(C) a vehicle operated by a transportation network company as that term is defined in Section [13-51-102](#); or

(D) a vehicle operated by a business offering a service similar to those described in Subsections (1)(a)(ii)(A) through (C).

(b) "Safety belt" means the same as that term is defined in Section [41-6a-1802](#).

(c) "Unaccompanied minor" means a person under the age of 18 that is not under the supervision of an adult.

(2) (a) An autonomous transport may not provide services to an unaccompanied minor that is under the age of eight.

(b) An autonomous transport may not provide services to an unaccompanied minor under the age of 16 if the services are not requested and initiated by the minor's parent or guardian.

(3) (a) Before an autonomous transport may provide services to an unaccompanied minor under the age of 16, the autonomous transport shall ensure that a parent or guardian has:

(i) completed a waiver or permission form; and

(ii) provided emergency contact information for each minor being transported.

(b) The waiver or permission form may be part of the autonomous transport's mobile application or other ride hailing technology.

(4) An autonomous transport shall ensure that any vehicle offered to provide services to an unaccompanied minor:

- 59 (a) is enclosed with a roof or top;
- 60 (b) is equipped with functional safety belts;
- 61 (c) has current vehicle registration;
- 62 (d) is in clean and safe condition;
- 63 (e) maintains an interior temperature between 60 and 85 degrees Fahrenheit;
- 64 (f) is compliant with safety and equipment standards described in Chapter 6a, Part 16,
- 65 Vehicle Equipment;
- 66 (g) is equipped with an emergency communication system that can establish
- 67 communication between the vehicle, passenger, and emergency services in the event of an
- 68 incident; and
- 69 (h) has a video monitoring system to monitor activity in the vehicle, upload the video
- 70 data to a secure server, and retain the video data for the longer of:
- 71 (i) 90 days; or
- 72 (ii) a period of time for which the video data is needed for:
- 73 (A) evidentiary or investigative purposes; or
- 74 (B) pursuant to a warrant issued under the Utah Rules of Criminal Procedure or an
- 75 equivalent federal warrant.
- 76 (5) Before an autonomous transport may provide services to an unaccompanied minor,
- 77 the parent or guardian shall ensure that:
- 78 (a) the safety belt is properly fastened; and
- 79 (b) another parent or guardian is at the destination to receive the unaccompanied minor.