

MOTOR VEHICLE LIGHT AMENDMENTS

2023 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Judy Weeks Rohner

Senate Sponsor: Ann Millner

Cosponsors:	Dan N. Johnson	Stephen L. Whyte
Tyler Clancy	Michael L. Kohler	
Joseph Elison	Thomas W. Peterson	
Tim Jimenez		

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill requires a vehicle operator to have the vehicle's lights or lamps illuminated while the vehicle is being operated during certain times of day and driving conditions.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- requires a vehicle operator to ensure the vehicle headlights are illuminated while the vehicle is being operated on a highway any time:

- from sunset to sunrise; and
- when persons and vehicles are not clearly discernible at 1,000 feet ahead;

- provides that a vehicle operator driving a vehicle with automated lights complies with certain light requirements; and

- makes technical changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

28 AMENDS:

29 **41-6a-1603**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 412



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

32 Section 1. Section **41-6a-1603** is amended to read:

33 **41-6a-1603. Lights and illuminating devices -- Duty to display -- Time.**

34 (1) (a) The operator of a vehicle shall ~~[turn on]~~ ensure the lamps or lights of the vehicle
35 are illuminated while the vehicle is being operated on a highway at any time ~~[from a half hour~~
36 ~~after sunset to a half hour before sunrise and at any other time when, due to]:~~

37 (i) from sunset to sunrise; or

38 (ii) ~~[insufficient light or unfavorable atmospheric conditions;]~~ when persons and
39 vehicles on the highway are not clearly discernible at a distance of 1,000 feet ahead[-] due to:

40 (A) insufficient light; or

41 (B) unfavorable atmospheric conditions.

42 (b) An operator of a vehicle driving with automated lights does not violate Subsection
43 (1)(a) if:

44 (i) the vehicle's automated light function is operable and engaged; and

45 (ii) the automated feature has not been overridden or adjusted.

46 ~~[(b)]~~ (c) The lights, lighted lamps, and other lamps and illuminating devices under
47 Subsection (1)(a) shall be lighted as respectively required for different classes of vehicles,
48 subject to the exceptions for parked vehicles under Section **41-6a-1607**.

49 (2) Whenever a requirement is made as to distance from which certain lamps and
50 devices shall render objects visible or within which the lamps or devices shall be visible, the
51 provisions apply during the times specified under Subsection (1)(a) for a vehicle without load
52 on a straight, level, unlighted highway under normal atmospheric conditions, unless a different
53 time or condition is expressly stated.

54 (3) Whenever a requirement is made as to the mounted height of lamps or devices it
55 shall mean from the center of the lamp or device to the level ground upon which the vehicle

56 stands when the vehicle is without a load.

57 (4) A violation of this section is an infraction.