TRAFFIC SAFETY AMENDMENTS
2023 GENERAL SESSION
STATE OF UTAH
Chief Sponsor: Wayne A. Harper
House Sponsor: Candice B. Pierucci
LONG TITLE
Committee Note:
The Transportation Interim Committee recommended this bill.
Legislative Vote: 13 voting for 0 voting against 5 absent
General Description:
This bill enacts provisions related to allocation of law and traffic enforcement
responsibilities on state highways.
Highlighted Provisions:
This bill:
 requires the Department of Public Safety and Utah Highway Patrol to:
 annually evaluate enforcement responsibilities on state highways;
 coordinate with local law enforcement agencies regarding enforcement
responsibilities; and
 report to the Legislature each year with any significant changes in patrol
responsibilities that may require budgetary changes;
• enacts a provision requiring the Department of Transportation coordinate with the
Department of Public Safety and Utah Highway Patrol regarding changes to the
state highway system, traffic and law enforcement, and incident management
services; and
makes technical changes.
Money Appropriated in this Bill:



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;	None
)	Other Special Clauses:
)	None
	Utah Code Sections Affected:
,	AMENDS:
,	53-8-105, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 447
<u>.</u>	72-1-201, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 80
	Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
,	Section 1. Section 53-8-105 is amended to read:
;	53-8-105. Duties of Highway Patrol.
)	(1) In addition to the duties in this chapter, the Highway Patrol shall:
)	[(1)] (a) enforce the state laws and rules governing use of the state highways;
	[(2)] (b) regulate traffic on all highways and roads of the state;
	[(3)] (c) assist the governor in an emergency or at other times at his discretion;
	[(4)] (d) in cooperation with federal, state, and local agencies, enforce and assist in the
	enforcement of all state and federal laws related to the operation of a motor carrier on a
	highway, including all state and federal rules and regulations;
	[(5)] (e) inspect certain vehicles to determine road worthiness and safe condition as
	provided in Section 41-6a-1630;
	[(6)] (f) upon request, assist with any condition of unrest existing or developing on a
	campus or related facility of an institution of higher education;
	[(7)] <u>(g)</u> assist the Alcoholic Beverage Services Commission in an emergency to
	enforce the state liquor laws;
	[(8)] (h) provide security and protection for both houses of the Legislature while in
	session as the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president of the Senate find
	necessary;
	[(9)] (i) enforce the state laws and rules governing use of the capitol hill complex as
	defined in Section 63C-9-102; and
	[(10)] (j) carry out the following for the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals:
	[(a)] (i) provide security and protection to those courts when in session in the capital

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59	city of the state;
60	[(b)] (ii) execute orders issued by the courts; and
61	[(c)] (iii) carry out duties as directed by the courts.
62	(2) (a) The division and the department shall annually:
63	(i) evaluate the inventory of new and existing state highways, in coordination with
64	relevant local law enforcement agencies, to determine which law enforcement agency is best
65	suited to patrol and enforce state laws and regulate traffic on each state highway; and
66	(ii) before October 1 of each year, report to the Transportation Interim Committee and
67	the Executive Offices and Criminal Justice Appropriations Subcommittee regarding:
68	(A) significant changes to the patrol and enforcement responsibilities resulting from
69	the evaluation described in Subsection (2)(a)(i); and
70	(B) any budget request necessary to accommodate additional patrol and enforcement
71	responsibilities.
72	(b) The division and the department shall, before July 1 of each year, coordinate with
73	the Department of Transportation created in Section 72-1-201 regarding patrol and
74	enforcement responsibilities described in Subsection (2)(a) and incident management services
75	on state highways.
76	Section 2. Section 72-1-201 is amended to read:
77	72-1-201. Creation of Department of Transportation Functions, powers, duties,
78	rights, and responsibilities.
79	(1) There is created the Department of Transportation which shall:
80	(a) have the general responsibility for planning, research, design, construction,
81	maintenance, security, and safety of state transportation systems;
82	(b) provide administration for state transportation systems and programs;
83	(c) implement the transportation policies of the state;
84	(d) plan, develop, construct, and maintain state transportation systems that are safe,
85	reliable, environmentally sensitive, and serve the needs of the traveling public, commerce, and
86	industry;
87	(e) establish standards and procedures regarding the technical details of administration
88	of the state transportation systems as established by statute and administrative rule;
20	(f) advise the governor and the Legislature about state transportation systems needs:

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90	(g) coordinate with utility companies for the reasonable, efficient, and cost-effective
91	installation, maintenance, operation, relocation, and upgrade of utilities within state highway
92	rights-of-way;
93	(h) in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act,
94	make rules for the administration of the department, state transportation systems, and
95	programs;
96	(i) jointly with the commission annually report to the Transportation Interim
97	Committee, by November 30 of each year, as to the operation, maintenance, condition,
98	mobility, safety needs, and wildlife and livestock mitigation for state transportation systems;
99	(j) ensure that any training or certification required of a public official or public
100	employee, as those terms are defined in Section 63G-22-102, complies with Title 63G, Chapter
101	22, State Training and Certification Requirements, if the training or certification is required:
102	(i) under this title;
103	(ii) by the department; or
104	(iii) by an agency or division within the department; [and]
105	(k) study and make recommendations to the Legislature on potential managed lane use
106	and implementation on selected transportation systems within the state[-]; and
107	(l) before July 1 of each year, coordinate with the Utah Highway Patrol Division
108	created in Section 53-8-103 regarding:
109	(i) future highway projects that will add additional capacity to the state transportation
110	system;
111	(ii) potential changes in law enforcement responsibilities due to future highway
112	projects; and
113	(iii) incident management services on state highways.
114	(2) (a) The department shall exercise reasonable care in designing, constructing, and
115	maintaining a state highway in a reasonably safe condition for travel.
116	(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed as:
117	(i) creating a private right of action; or
118	(ii) expanding or changing the department's common law duty as described in
119	Subsection (2)(a) for liability purposes.