

SNOWPLOW AMENDMENTS

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: A. Cory Maloy

Senate Sponsor: Michael K. McKell

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends the Traffic Code regarding a snow plow.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

~~H→ [→ clarifies that a snow plow is an authorized emergency vehicle; and] ←H~~

▶ clarifies that ~~H→ [an authorized emergency vehicle]~~ a government snow plow ←H may not be cited for a lighting violation.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

41-6a-102, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 219, 532

41-6a-718, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 219

41-6a-1616, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2016, Chapter 348

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

Section 1. Section **41-6a-102** is amended to read:

41-6a-102. Definitions.



28 As used in this chapter:

29 (1) "Alley" means a street or highway intended to provide access to the rear or side of
30 lots or buildings in urban districts and not intended for through vehicular traffic.

31 (2) "All-terrain type I vehicle" means the same as that term is defined in Section
32 41-22-2.

33 (3) "Authorized emergency vehicle" includes:

34 (a) a fire department [~~vehicles~~] vehicle;

35 (b) a police [~~vehicles~~] vehicle;

36 (c) [~~ambulances~~] an ambulance; ~~H→~~ and ~~←H~~

37 ~~H→~~ [~~(d) a snow plow, when operated at the direction of the state or a political subdivision of~~
38 ~~the state, and~~] ~~←H~~

39 ~~H→~~ [~~f~~] (~~d~~) [~~h~~] [~~te~~] ~~←H~~ other publicly or privately owned vehicles as designated by the
39a commissioner
40 of the Department of Public Safety.

41 (4) "Autocycle" means the same as that term is defined in Section 53-3-102.

42 (5) (a) "Bicycle" means a wheeled vehicle:

43 (i) propelled by human power by feet or hands acting upon pedals or cranks;

44 (ii) with a seat or saddle designed for the use of the operator;

45 (iii) designed to be operated on the ground; and

46 (iv) whose wheels are not less than 14 inches in diameter.

47 (b) "Bicycle" includes an electric assisted bicycle.

48 (c) "Bicycle" does not include scooters and similar devices.

49 (6) (a) "Bus" means a motor vehicle:

50 (i) designed for carrying more than 15 passengers and used for the transportation of
51 persons; or

52 (ii) designed and used for the transportation of persons for compensation.

53 (b) "Bus" does not include a taxicab.

54 (7) (a) "Circular intersection" means an intersection that has an island, generally
55 circular in design, located in the center of the intersection where traffic passes to the right of
56 the island.

57 (b) "Circular intersection" includes:

58 (i) roundabouts;

400 **41-6a-718. Operation of a snowplow -- Approaching a snowplow -- Prohibition to**
 401 **pass.**

402 (1) (a) A snowplow operator shall ensure that a snowplow in operation on a highway
 403 displays flashing yellow lights.

404 (b) An individual operating a snowplow as an agent of a highway authority, while
 405 engaged in the removal of snow or ice on a highway, may not be charged with a violation under
 406 this chapter related to parking, standing, turning, backing, lighting, or yielding the right-of-way.

407 (c) Notwithstanding the exemptions described in Subsection (1)(b), an individual
 408 operating a snowplow shall operate the snowplow with reasonable care.

409 (2) If a snowplow is displaying flashing yellow lights, an individual operating a vehicle
 410 in the vicinity of the snowplow may not pass or overtake a snowplow on a side of the
 411 snowplow where a plow blade is deployed.

412 (3) If three or more snowplows are operating in echelon formation, an individual
 413 operating a vehicle in the vicinity of the snowplows may not overtake or pass the snowplows
 414 on either side of the snowplows.

415 (4) A violation of Subsection (2) or (3) is an infraction.

416 Section 3. Section **41-6a-1616** is amended to read:

417 **41-6a-1616. High intensity beams -- Red or blue lights -- Flashing lights -- Color**
 418 **of rear lights and reflectors.**

419 (1) (a) Except as provided under Subsection (1)(b), under the conditions specified
 420 under Subsection 41-6a-1603(1)(a), a lighted lamp or illuminating device on a vehicle, which
 421 projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower, shall be directed so that
 422 no part of the high intensity portion of the beam will strike the level of the roadway on which
 423 the vehicle stands at a distance of more than 75 feet from the vehicle.

424 (b) The provisions of Subsection (1)(a) do not apply to head lamps, spot lamps,
 425 auxiliary lamps, flashing turn signals, hazard warning lamps, [and] school bus warning lamps,
 426 or ~~Ĥ~~→ [an authorized emergency vehicle] a snow plow, when operated at the direction of the
 426a state or a political subdivision of the state ←~~Ĥ~~ .

427 (c) A motor vehicle on a highway may not have more than a total of four lamps lighted
 428 on the front of the vehicle including head lamps, auxiliary lamps, spot lamps, or any other lamp
 429 if the lamp projects a beam of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower.

430 (2) (a) Except for an authorized emergency vehicle described in Section 41-6a-1601, a