1 **VEHICLE ACCIDENT LIABILITY AMENDMENTS** 2 **2024 GENERAL SESSION** 3 STATE OF UTAH **Chief Sponsor: Andrew Stoddard** 4 Senate Sponsor: Michael K. McKell 5 6 7 LONG TITLE 8 **General Description:** 9 This bill clarifies that a vehicle operator intending to turn left is not required to yield the right-of-way to a vehicle operator approaching from the opposite direction that fails to 10 11 obey a certain traffic-control device at the intersection and is not liable for a resulting 12 accident. 13 **Highlighted Provisions:** This bill: 14 15 • clarifies that a vehicle operator intending to turn left is not required to yield the 16 right-of-way to a vehicle operator approaching from the opposite direction that fails 17 to stop or yield when required by a traffic-control device at the intersection; 18 • clarifies that the vehicle operator intending to turn left is not liable for a resulting 19 accident; and 20 makes technical changes. 21 Money Appropriated in this Bill: 22 None 23 **Other Special Clauses:** 24 None 25 **Utah Code Sections Affected:** 26 AMENDS: 27 41-6a-903, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 412

H.B. 144

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
Section 1. Section <b>41-6a-903</b> is amended to read:
41-6a-903. Yield right-of-way Vehicle turning left Entering or crossing
highway other than from another roadway Merging lanes.
(1) The operator of a vehicle:
(a) except as provided in Subsection (2), intending to turn to the left shall yield the
right-of-way to any vehicle operator approaching from the opposite direction which is so close
to the turning vehicle operator as to constitute an immediate hazard;
(b) about to enter or cross a highway from any place other than another highway shall
yield the right-of-way to all [vehicles] vehicle operators approaching on the highway to be
entered or crossed; and
(c) traveling in a lane that is about to merge into a continuing lane, shall yield the
right-of-way to all [vehicles] vehicle operators traveling in the continuing lane and which are
so close as to be an immediate hazard.
(2) (a) The operator of a vehicle intending to turn to the left at an intersection is not
required to yield the right-of-way to a vehicle operator approaching from the opposite direction
if the vehicle operator approaching from the opposite direction fails to stop or yield when
required to stop or yield by a traffic-control device at that intersection.
(b) If the vehicle operator approaching from the opposite direction fails to stop or yield
when required to stop or yield by the traffic-control device at that intersection as described in
Subsection (2)(a), and the vehicle operator intending to turn to the left and the approaching
vehicle operator are involved in a collision at that intersection, the vehicle operator intending to
turn to the left is not liable for any damages resulting from the collision.
[(2)] (3) A violation of Subsection (1) is an infraction.
Section 2. Effective date.

54 <u>This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.</u>