

**LANE FILTERING AMENDMENTS**

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Stephanie Gricius**

Senate Sponsor: Don L. Ipson

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill amends the Traffic Code in relation to lane filtering.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ clarifies that lane filtering is permitted on an off-ramp.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**41-6a-704**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 219

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

Section 1. Section **41-6a-704** is amended to read:

**41-6a-704. Overtaking and passing vehicles proceeding in same direction.**

(1) (a) Except as provided in Section **41-6a-718**, on any highway:

(i) the operator of a vehicle overtaking another vehicle proceeding in the same direction shall:

(A) except as provided under Section **41-6a-705**, promptly pass the overtaken vehicle



28 on the left at a safe distance; and

29 (B) enter a right-hand lane or the right side of the roadway only when safely clear of  
30 the overtaken vehicle;

31 (ii) the operator of an overtaken vehicle:

32 (A) shall give way to the right in favor of the overtaking vehicle; and

33 (B) may not increase the speed of the vehicle until completely passed by the overtaking  
34 vehicle.

35 (b) The exemption from the minimum speed regulations for a vehicle operating on a  
36 grade under Section 41-6a-605 does not exempt the vehicle from promptly passing a vehicle as  
37 required under Subsection (1)(a)(i)(A).

38 (2) On a highway having more than one lane in the same direction, the operator of a  
39 vehicle traveling in the left general purpose lane:

40 (a) shall, upon being overtaken by another vehicle in the same lane, yield to the  
41 overtaking vehicle by moving safely to a lane to the right; and

42 (b) may not impede the movement or free flow of traffic in the left general purpose  
43 lane.

44 (3) An operator of a vehicle traveling in the left general purpose lane that has a vehicle  
45 following directly behind the operator's vehicle at a distance so that less than two seconds  
46 elapse before reaching the location of the operator's vehicle when space is available for the  
47 operator to yield to the overtaking vehicle by traveling in the right-hand lane is prima facie  
48 evidence that the operator is violating Subsection (2).

49 (4) The provisions of Subsection (2) do not apply to an operator of a vehicle traveling  
50 in the left general purpose lane when:

51 (a) overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction in  
52 accordance with Subsection (1)(a)(i);

53 (b) preparing to turn left or taking a different highway or an exit on the left;

54 (c) responding to emergency conditions;

55 (d) avoiding actual or potential traffic moving onto the highway from an acceleration  
56 or merging lane; or

57 (e) following the direction of a traffic-control device that directs the use of a designated  
58 lane.

59 (5) An individual may engage in lane filtering only when the following conditions  
60 exist:

61 (a) the individual is operating a motorcycle;

62 (b) the individual is;

63 (i) on a roadway that is divided into two or more adjacent traffic lanes in the same  
64 direction of travel; or

65 (ii) on an off-ramp of a freeway or other limited access highway that is divided into  
66 two or more adjacent traffic lanes in the same direction of travel;

67 (c) the individual is;

68 (i) on a roadway with a speed limit of 45 miles per hour or less; or

69 (ii) on an off-ramp of a freeway or other limited access highway;

70 (d) the individual is not on an on-ramp of a freeway or other limited access highway;

71 [~~(d)~~] (e) the vehicle being overtaken in the same lane is stopped;

72 [~~(e)~~] (f) the motorcycle is traveling at a speed of 15 miles per hour or less; and

73 [~~(f)~~] (g) the movement may be made safely.

74 (6) A violation of Subsection (1), (2), or (5) is an infraction.

75 Section 2. **Effective date.**

76 This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.