



PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
130 WEST CONGRESS, 11th FLOOR  
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85701-1317  
(520) 740-8094  
(520) 740-2721 FAX

RAY CARROLL  
COUNTY SUPERVISOR  
DISTRICT 4

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Robin Brigode  
Clerk of the Board

**FROM:** Ray Carroll  
District 4 Supervisor

**SUBJECT:** Addendum Item

**DATE:** December 10, 2015

*Ray Carroll*

DEC 10 15 PM 04:56 PC CLK/CFD



---

Please place the following item on the Addendum for the Board of Supervisors meeting of December 15, 2015:

### Addition to 2016 Legislative Agenda

Addition to the 2016 Legislative Agenda relating to the following topic:

#### Traffic Safety/Brake Light Language

I. A vehicle's CHMSL is permitted to rapidly pulse up to four times for no more than three seconds when the vehicle's brake is applied and then converts to a continuous light as a normal stop lamp or reflector until the time that the brake pedal is released; and

II. The rapid pulsing described in this Subsection may not be repeated upon a subsequent application of the brakes for a lock-out time period of at least five seconds of continuous release of the brakes.

Discussion/Action. (District 4)

Attachment

## **TRAFFIC SAFETY LIGHTS ON VEHICLES**

**2**

**2015 GENERAL SESSION**

**3**

**STATE OF UTAH**

**4**

**Chief Sponsor: Lee B. Perry**

**5**

**Senate Sponsor: Todd Weiler**

**6**

**7 LONG TITLE**

**8 General Description:**

**9 This bill modifies the Traffic Code by amending provisions relating to lighting**

**10 requirements on vehicles.**

**11 Highlighted Provisions:**

**12 This bill:**

**13 ▶ defines continuously flashing light system;**

**14 ▶ provides that a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer may be equipped**

**15 with a continuously flashing light system;**

**16 ▶ provides an exception for a continuously flashing light system to the prohibition on**

17 a person using flashing lights on a vehicle; and

18     ▶ makes technical corrections.

19 Money Appropriated in this Bill:

20     None

21 Other Special Clauses:

22     None

23 Utah Code Sections Affected:

24 AMENDS:

25     41-6a-1604, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2005, Chapter  
26     2

26     41-6a-1616, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2006, Chapter 100

27

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

29     Section 1. Section 41-6a-1604 is amended to read:

30     41-6a-1604. Motor vehicle head lamps, tail lamps, stop lamps, and other  
31     lamps --

31     Requirements.

32     (1) A motor vehicle shall be equipped with at least two head lamps with at  
33     least one on

33     each side of the front of the motor vehicle.

34     (2) (a) A motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, and any other  
35     vehicle which is

35     being drawn at the end of a combination of vehicles, shall be equipped with  
36     at least two tail

36     lamps and two or more red reflectors mounted on the rear.

37     (b) (i) Except as provided under Subsections (2)(b)(ii), (2)(c), and Section  
38     41-6a-1612,

38     all stop lamps or other lamps and reflectors mounted on the rear of a vehicle  
39     shall display or

39 reflect a red color.

40 (ii) A turn signal or hazard warning light may be red or yellow.

41 (c) Either a tail lamp or a separate lamp shall be so constructed and placed as to

42 illuminate with a white light the rear registration plate.

43 (3) (a) A motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer shall be equipped with two

44 or more stop lamps and flashing turn signals.

45 (b) A supplemental stop lamp may be mounted on the rear of a vehicle, if the

46 supplemental stop lamp:

47 (i) emits a red light;

48 (ii) is mounted:

49 (A) and constructed so that no light emitted from the device, either direct or reflected,

50 is visible to the driver;

51 (B) not lower than 15 inches above the roadway; and

52 (C) on the vertical center line of the vehicle; and

53 (iii) is the size, design, and candle power that conforms to federal standards regulating

54 stop lamps.

55 (4) (a) Each head lamp, tail lamp, supplemental stop lamp, flashing turn lamp, other

56 lamp, or reflector required under this part shall comply with the requirements and limitations

57 established under Section 41-6a-1601.

58 (b) The department, by rules made under Section 41-6a-1601, may require trucks,

59 buses, motor homes, motor vehicles with truck-campers, trailers, semitrailers, and pole trailers

60 to have additional lamps and reflectors.

61 (5) The department, by rules made under Section 41-6a-1601, may allow:

62 (a) one tail lamp on any vehicle equipped with only one when it was  
made;

63 (b) one stop lamp on any vehicle equipped with only one when it was  
made; and

64 (c) passenger cars and trucks with a width less than 80 inches and  
manufactured or

65 assembled prior to January 1, 1953, need not be equipped with electric turn  
signal lamps.

66 (6) (a) As used in this section, "continuously flashing light system"  
means a light

67 system for a supplemental stop lamp described in Subsection (3)(b) in  
which:

68 (i) the stop lamp or reflector pulses rapidly for no more than five seconds  
when the

69 brake is applied and then converts to a continuous light as a normal stop  
lamp or reflector until

70 the time that the brake is released; and

71 (ii) the rapid pulsing described in Subsection (6)(a)(i) may not be repeated  
upon a

72 subsequent application of the brakes for a lock-out time period of at least  
five seconds after the

73 release of the brakes under Subsection (6)(a)(i).

74 (b) A motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer may be equipped  
with a

75 continuously flashing light system.

76 Section 2. Section 41-6a-1616 is amended to read:

77 41-6a-1616. High intensity beams -- Red or blue lights -- Flashing lights.

78 (1) (a) Except as provided under Subsection (1)(b), under the conditions  
specified

79 under Subsection 41-6a-1603(1)(a), a lighted lamp or illuminating device on a  
vehicle, which

80 projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower shall be directed so that

81 no part of the high intensity portion of the beam will strike the level of the roadway on which

82 the vehicle stands at a distance of more than 75 feet from the vehicle.

83 (b) The provisions of Subsection (1)(a) do not apply to head lamps, spot lamps,

84 auxiliary lamps, flashing turn signals, hazard warning lamps, and school bus warning lamps.

85 (c) A motor vehicle on a highway may not have more than a total of four lamps lighted

86 on the front of the vehicle including head lamps, auxiliary lamps, spot lamps, or any other lamp

87 if the lamp projects a beam of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower.

88 (2) (a) Except for an authorized emergency vehicle and a school bus, a person may not

89 operate or move any vehicle or equipment on a highway with a lamp or device capable of

90 displaying a red light that is visible from directly in front of the center of the vehicle.

91 (b) Except for a law enforcement vehicle, a person may not operate or move any

92 vehicle or equipment on a highway with a lamp or device capable of displaying a blue light that

93 is visible from directly in front of the center of the vehicle.

94 (3) A person may not use flashing lights on a vehicle except for:

95 (a) taillights of bicycles under Section 41-6a-1114;

96 (b) authorized emergency vehicles under rules made by the department under Section

97 41-6a-1601;

98 (c) turn signals under Section 41-6a-1604;

99 (d) hazard warning lights under Sections 41-6a-1608 and 41-6a-1611;  
100 (e) school bus flashing lights under Section 41-6a-1302; [and]  
101 (f) vehicles engaged in highway construction or maintenance under  
Section  
102 41-6a-1617; and  
103 (g) a continuously flashing light system under Section 41-6a-1604.  
104 (4) A person may not use a rotating light on any vehicle other than an  
authorized  
105 emergency vehicle.



October 29, 2015

**Please consider this addition to the Transportation bill being created by the committee:**

**Brake Light Language**

- I. A vehicle's CHMSL is permitted to rapidly pulse up to four times for no more than three seconds when the vehicle's brake is applied and then converts to a continuous light as a normal stop lamp or reflector until the time that the brake pedal is released; and
- II. The rapid pulsing described in this Subsection may not be repeated upon a subsequent application of the brakes for a lock-out time period of at least five seconds of continuous release of the brakes.

States with similar statutes are Tennessee, California and Utah.

**Tennessee Statute 55-9-402.b.1**

**(b) (1)** Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with two (2) red tail lamps and two (2) red stoplights on the rear of the vehicle, and one (1) tail lamp and one (1) stoplight shall be on each side, except that passenger cars manufactured or assembled prior to January 1, 1939, trucks manufactured or assembled prior to January 1, 1968, and motorcycles and motor-driven cycles shall have at least one (1) red tail lamp and one (1) red stoplight. No non-emergency vehicle shall operate or install emergency flashing light systems such as strobe, wig-wag, or other flashing lights in tail light lamp, stoplight area, or factory installed emergency flasher and backup light area; provided, however, that the foregoing prohibition shall not apply to the utilization of a continuously flashing light system. For the purpose of this part, "continuously flashing light system" means a brake light system in which the brake lamp pulses rapidly for no more than five (5) seconds when the brake is applied, and then converts to a continuous light as a normal brake lamp until the time that the brake is released.

In 2013, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, there were 424,000 injuries reported from distracted driving and 290,000 injuries reported from drunk driving.  
<http://www.aic.com/feed/news/local/marietta-police-share-staggering-distracted/fCGyQw/>



This addition will clear up extensive confusion in the automotive inspection and standards regiment. Helping to save thousands of lives lost to distracted driving.

The County Executives of America is a non-partisan organization that includes a membership of over 700 chief elected executives of a county or consolidated city/county government. This esteemed group represents more than 50% of the nation's population and includes the largest metropolitan governments in the country. Our members are the top decision-makers in their counties and have full responsibility for the growth of the local economy and the well-being of their citizenry.

Thank you,

County Executives of America