

1 **Driving by Minors Amendments**

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Jill Koford**

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3 **LONG TITLE**

4 **General Description:**

5 This bill amends restrictions on a licensed driver that is younger than 18 years old.

6 **Highlighted Provisions:**

7 This bill:

8 ▶ allows a newly licensed driver who is younger than 18 years old to drive one passenger  
9 who is not an immediate family member.

10 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

11 None

12 **Other Special Clauses:**

13 None

14 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

15 AMENDS:

16 **41-8-3**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 412

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

19 Section 1. Section **41-8-3** is amended to read:

20 **41-8-3 . Operation of vehicle by persons under 16 and six months -- Passenger**  
21 **limitations -- Exceptions -- Penalties.**

22 (1) In addition to the provisions of Title 53, Chapter 3, Uniform Driver License Act, a  
23 person, whether resident or nonresident of this state, may not operate a motor vehicle  
24 upon any highway of this state with [any] more than one passenger who is not an  
25 immediate family member of the driver until the earlier of:

26 (a) six months from the date the person's driver license was issued; or

27 (b) the person reaches 18 years [of age] old.

28 (2) It is an affirmative defense to a charge under Subsection (1) that the person is operating  
29 a motor vehicle:

30 (a) accompanied by a licensed driver at least 21 years [of age] old who is occupying a  
31 seat next to the driver;

32 (b) on assignment of a farmer or rancher and the driver is engaged in an agricultural  
33 operation; or

34 (c) in an emergency.

35 (3) In addition to any penalties imposed under Title 53, Chapter 3, Uniform Driver License  
36 Act, a violation of this section is an infraction.

37 (4)(a) Enforcement of this section by state or local law enforcement officers shall be  
38 only as a secondary action when an operator of a motor vehicle has been detained for  
39 a suspected violation of Title 41, Motor Vehicles, other than this section, or for  
40 another offense.

41 (b) A peace officer may not seize or impound a vehicle if:

42 (i) the operator of the vehicle is cited for a violation of this section; and

43 (ii) the seizure or impoundment is not otherwise authorized under Section 41-1a-1101,  
44 41-6a-1405, 41-6a-1608, or 73-18-20.1 or required under Section 41-6a-527.

45 Section 2. **Effective Date.**

46 This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.