

1 S.160

2 Introduced by Senator Rodgers

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: All-terrain vehicles; State highways; operation

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to authorize the
7 operation of an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) along a State highway for limited
8 purposes and subject to specific requirements.

9 An act relating to operation of all-terrain vehicles along State highways

10 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

11 Sec. 1. 23 V.S.A. § 3506 is amended to read:

12 § 3506. OPERATION

13 (a) A person may only operate or permit an all-terrain vehicle owned by
14 him or under his or her control to be operated in accordance with this chapter.

15 (b) An all-terrain vehicle may not be operated:

16 (1) Along a public highway unless ~~it~~ at least one of the following
17 circumstances applies:

18 (A) The highway is not being maintained during the snow season ~~or~~
19 ~~unless the~~

1 (B) The highway is a town highway that has been opened to
2 all-terrain vehicle travel by the selectboard or trustees or local governing body
3 and is so posted by the municipality ~~except an~~.

4 (C) The ATV is operated for a distance of one mile or less along a
5 State highway that either connects properties open to ATV travel, including a
6 town highway that has been opened to ATV travel, or provides access to the
7 closest food, fuel, lodging, or repair services available from property open to
8 ATV travel. However, this subdivision shall not permit operation along a
9 limited access facility unless authorized by the Traffic Committee. A person
10 operating an ATV along a State highway under this subdivision (b)(1)(C) shall:

11 (i) wear protective headgear of a type approved by the
12 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles;

13 (ii) maintain financial responsibility at the levels specified at
14 23 V.S.A. § 800;

15 (iii) comply with the signaling requirements of 23 V.S.A. §§ 1064
16 and 1065; and

17 (iv) comply with all motor vehicle laws applicable when an ATV
18 is operated on a public highway as specified at 23 V.S.A. § 3501(5).

19 (D) The all-terrain vehicle is being used for agricultural purposes
20 may be and is operated not closer than three feet from the traveled portion of
21 any highway for the purpose of traveling within the confines of the farm.

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(11) On limited access highways, ~~rights-of-way~~ rights-of-way, or approaches unless permitted by the Traffic Committee under section 1004 of this title. In no cases shall the use of all-terrain vehicles be permitted on any portion of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways unless the Traffic Committee permits operation on these highways.

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Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.