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S.122

Senator Rodgers moves that [*intro language depends on timing and circumstances*] by adding a new section to be Sec. 33a and a reader assistance thereto to read:

* * * ATV Operation on State Highways; Pilot Program * * *

Sec. 33a. ATV OPERATION ON STATE HIGHWAYS; PILOT PROGRAM

(a) A pilot program is established to authorize the operation of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) on State highways in Orleans County in accordance with this section. The pilot program shall start on July 1, 2015, and end on July 1, 2019.

(b) Notwithstanding 23 V.S.A. § 3506(b), during the term of the pilot program, a person may operate an ATV along a State highway, other than I-91, for a distance of one mile or less, if the State highway:

(1) connects properties open to ATV travel, including a town highway that has been opened to ATV travel. The operator may access properties adjacent to the connecting State highway that offer food, fuel, lodging, or repair services; or

(2) provides access to the closest food, fuel, lodging, or repair services that are available from property open to ATV travel.

(c) A person shall not operate an ATV along a State highway under the pilot program unless the person:

1 (1) wears protective headgear of a type approved by the Commissioner
2 of Motor Vehicles;

3 (2) maintains financial responsibility at the levels specified at 23 V.S.A.
4 § 800;

5 (3) complies with the signaling requirements of 23 V.S.A. §§ 1064 and
6 1065; and

7 (4) complies with all motor vehicle laws applicable when an ATV is
8 operated on a public highway as specified at 23 V.S.A. § 3501(5).

9 (d) A person who violates subsection (c) of this section shall be subject to
10 the penalty prescribed in 23 V.S.A. § 3507.

11 (e) The Commissioner of Public Safety, after consulting with the Vermont
12 ATV Sportsman’s Association and municipalities in Orleans County, shall
13 submit to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation an interim
14 written report on or before January 15, 2017, and a follow-up written report on
15 or before January 15, 2019, evaluating the pilot program.