



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

Raised Bill No. 6574

LCO No. 4128

04128_____TRA

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Introduced by:
(TRA)

AN ACT INCREASING THE PERMISSIBLE SIZE AND WEIGHT OF ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES AND PROVIDING FUNDS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TRAILS ON STATE LAND FOR USE BY SUCH VEHICLES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 23-26a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2011*):

3 As used in sections 23-26b and 23-26c, as amended by this act,
4 sections 23-26d to [23-26g] 23-26f, inclusive, and section 23-26g, as
5 amended by this act, "all-terrain vehicle" means a motorized vehicle,
6 not suitable for operation on a highway that (1) is not more than [fifty]
7 sixty inches in width, (2) has a dry weight of not more than [six] nine
8 hundred and seventy-five pounds, (3) travels on two or more tires
9 specifically designed for unimproved terrain, (4) has a seat or saddle
10 designed [to be straddled] for off-road riding by the operator, and (5)
11 has an engine with [a piston displacement of] more than [fifty cubic
12 centimeters] five horsepower.

13 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 23-26b of the general statutes is

14 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
15 *October 1, 2011*):

16 (a) No person shall operate an all-terrain vehicle on state land
17 without first obtaining a certificate from the Commissioner of
18 Environmental Protection and unless such vehicle is registered
19 pursuant to section 14-380. No certificate to operate an all-terrain
20 vehicle on state land shall be issued to any person [under eighteen
21 years of age] unless such person has completed a safety education
22 course for all-terrain vehicles given pursuant to section 23-26d.

23 Sec. 3. Section 23-26c of the general statutes is repealed and the
24 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2011*):

25 The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall evaluate the
26 properties under [his] the commissioner's jurisdiction and the
27 jurisdiction of other state agencies for their use by persons operating
28 all-terrain vehicles and, not later than July 1, 2012, shall make available
29 some of such properties for such use. In making such properties
30 available the commissioner shall consider minimizing the impact of
31 all-terrain vehicles on the environment. Before making any property
32 available that is under the jurisdiction of another state agency, the
33 commissioner shall consult with such agency.

34 Sec. 4. Subsection (b) of section 23-26g of the general statutes is
35 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
36 *October 1, 2011*):

37 (b) Any person who (1) knowingly permits a person [less than
38 eighteen years of age] who has not obtained a certificate pursuant to
39 section 23-26b, as amended by this act, to operate an all-terrain vehicle
40 on state land, (2) permits a person less than twelve years of age to
41 operate an all-terrain vehicle on state land, or (3) allows a person
42 between twelve and sixteen years of age to operate an all-terrain
43 vehicle on state land without being supervised by a person more than
44 eighteen years of age, shall have committed an infraction.

45 Sec. 5. Section 14-381 of the general statutes is repealed and the
46 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2011*):

47 (a) Any owner required to register a snowmobile or all-terrain
48 vehicle shall apply to the [commissioner] Commissioner of Motor
49 Vehicles and shall file evidence of ownership by affidavit or document.
50 Upon receipt of an application in proper form and the registration fee,
51 the commissioner shall assign an identification number and provide
52 the owner with a certificate of registration and registration plate. The
53 registration plate, which shall be affixed by the owner, shall be
54 displayed on the snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle at a place and in a
55 manner prescribed by the commissioner. In addition to such
56 registration plate, each snowmobile and all-terrain vehicle so
57 registered shall display its registration number on each side of its front
58 section, midway between the top and bottom of said front section, in
59 letters or numbers at least three inches in height and made of a
60 reflective material. The certificate of registration shall be carried on
61 such snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle and shall be available for
62 inspection whenever such snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle is being
63 operated. The owner shall pay a fee of twenty dollars for each
64 snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle so registered. Each such certificate of
65 registration shall expire biennially on the last day of March.

66 (b) All fees collected for the registration of each all-terrain vehicle
67 shall be deposited in the General Fund and credited to the
68 appropriations of the Department of Environmental Protection. Such
69 fees shall be used to establish trails for such vehicles on properties
70 made available by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection
71 pursuant to section 23-26c, as amended by this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2011</i>	23-26a
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2011</i>	23-26b(a)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2011</i>	23-26c

Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2011</i>	23-26g(b)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	14-381

Statement of Purpose:

To increase the permissible weight and size of all-terrain vehicles, and provide funds to establish trails on state land for use by such vehicles.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]