

8399

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

October 2, 2015

Introduced by M. of A. BRINDISI -- read once and referred to the Committee on Tourism, Parks, Arts and Sports Development

AN ACT to amend the parks, recreation and historic preservation law, the vehicle and traffic law and the state finance law, in relation to the creation of an ATV trail fund

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Legislative intent and purpose. In order to best organize  
2 and sustain an environmentally sensitive statewide system of trails for  
3 all terrain vehicles, the legislature hereby creates an ATV trail fund.  
4 The control and supervision of the trail fund shall be maintained by the  
5 office of parks, recreation and historic preservation upon consultation  
6 with the department of environmental conservation. The trail fund is  
7 created for the purpose of designating state, municipal and private  
8 lands as part of a statewide network of ATV trails. Fees obtained by the  
9 office of parks, recreation and historic preservation for the maintenance  
10 of the trail fund shall be divided between administration,  
11 enforcement, education and remediation and maintenance, construction and  
12 development of the statewide trail system. It is the purpose of this  
13 act to promote the safe and proper use of all terrain vehicles for  
14 recreation and commerce in this state by encouraging their use and  
15 development, while minimizing detrimental effects of such use upon the  
16 environment.

17 S 2. The parks, recreation and historic preservation law is amended by  
18 adding a new article 26 to read as follows:

19 ARTICLE 26

20 ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE TRAIL FUND

21 SECTION 26.01 TRAIL PLAN.

22 26.03 RULES AND REGULATIONS.

23 S 26.01 TRAIL PLAN. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PREPARE A STATEWIDE ALL-TERRAIN  
24 RAIN VEHICLE TRAIL PLAN PROVIDING FOR RECREATIONAL USE OF "ALL TERRAIN  
25 VEHICLES" OR "ATVS" ON PERMITTED STATE AND MUNICIPAL LANDS AND ATV  
26 DESIGNATED TRAILS ON PRIVATE LANDS TO ESTABLISH A STATEWIDE NETWORK OF  
27 ATV TRAILS. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE, "ATV" MEANS AN ALL TERRAIN

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

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1 VEHICLE AS DEFINED IN SECTION TWENTY-TWO HUNDRED EIGHTY-ONE OF THE VEHI-  
2 CLE AND TRAFFIC LAW.

3 S 26.03 RULES AND REGULATIONS. 1. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROMULGATE  
4 REGULATIONS FOR THE USE OF ATVS WITH A VIEW TOWARDS ACHIEVING MAXIMUM  
5 USE OF ATVS AND MINIMIZING THE DETRIMENTAL EFFECT THEREOF UPON THE ENVI-  
6 RONMENT. NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL PROHIBIT THE DEPARTMENT FROM  
7 AUTHORIZING OTHER ATV USE ON STATE OWNED LANDS. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL  
8 ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO AND INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED  
9 TO THE FOLLOWING:

10 A. USE OF ATVS INsofar AS FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES AND NATURAL  
11 RESOURCES OF THE STATE.

12 B. USE OF ATVS ON PUBLIC LANDS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE DEPART-  
13 MENT, PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATING RECREATIONAL AND SPORTSMAN USE INTO  
14 UMPS DEVELOPED FOR SUCH LANDS.

15 C. UNIFORM SIGNS OR MARKERS.

16 D. REQUIREMENTS FOR PROTECTION OF PRIVATE PROPERTY OR THEREIN OCCA-  
17 SIONED BY THE USE OF ATVS.

18 E. ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE ATV INFORMATION AND SAFETY EDUCA-  
19 TION AND TRAINING PROGRAM, INCLUDING PROVISION FOR THE ISSUANCE OF ATV  
20 OPERATION AND SAFETY CERTIFICATES FOR OPERATION OF ATVS BY YOUTHFUL  
21 OPERATORS AND ADULT OPERATORS WITHOUT A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE.

22 F. REQUIREMENTS THAT NEW CONNECTOR TRAILS MUST COMPLY WITH STATE LAWS  
23 AND REGULATIONS AND, WHERE APPLICABLE FOR STATE-OWNED LANDS, COMPLY WITH  
24 A UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND BE SUBJECT TO FULL PUBLIC REVIEW AND HEAR-  
25 INGS.

26 G. REQUIREMENTS FOR MUNICIPALITIES FOR THE DESIGNATION OF ATV USE ON  
27 OTHER PUBLIC LANDS MUST BE CONSISTENT WITH ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESS-  
28 MENTS AS PRESCRIBED BY 6 NYCRR PART 617, AND PARAGRAPH B OF SUBDIVISION  
29 ONE AND PARAGRAPH M OF SUBDIVISION TWO OF SECTION 3-0301 AND SECTION  
30 8-0113 OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW.

31 H. PROVISIONS FOR CURRENT TRAILS AND TRAILS PENDING APPROVAL ON OR  
32 BEFORE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ARTICLE ARE PRESERVED IN PERPETUITY  
33 AND NOTHING SHALL RESTRICT THE USE OF COMMISSIONER POLICY THREE (CP3)  
34 PERMITS ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION ON THESE  
35 TRAILS.

36 I. PROVISIONS PROHIBITING THE USE OF ATVS ON STATE OWNED LANDS CLASSI-  
37 FIED AS THE FOLLOWING: ALBANY PINE BUSH, LONG ISLAND PINE BARRENS, OR  
38 LAND OR WATER CLASSIFIED AS PRIMITIVE OR CANOE PURSUANT TO THE MASTER  
39 PLAN FOR MANAGEMENT OF STATE LAND.

40 2. OPERATION BY YOUTHFUL OPERATORS SHALL BE AS FOLLOWS:

41 A. PERSONS BETWEEN TEN AND FOURTEEN YEARS OLD MUST HOLD A VALID SAFETY  
42 CERTIFICATE AND BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.

43 B. PERSONS BETWEEN FIFTEEN AND EIGHTEEN YEARS OLD MUST HOLD A VALID  
44 SAFETY CERTIFICATE OR DRIVER'S LICENSE.

45 S 3. Subdivision 1 of section 2282 of the vehicle and traffic law, as  
46 amended by chapter 402 of the law of 1986, is amended to read as  
47 follows:

48 1. Except as hereinafter provided, no person shall operate any ATV  
49 within the state ON LANDS OTHER THAN THOSE PRIVATELY OWNED BY THE ATV  
50 OWNER unless such ATV has been registered and numbered in accordance  
51 with the provisions of this article, and the registration number for  
52 such ATV is in full force and effect and displayed as provided under  
53 this article and regulations promulgated thereunder.

54 S 4. Paragraph (g) of subdivision 4 of section 2282 of the vehicle and  
55 traffic law, as amended by chapter 402 of the laws of 1986, is amended  
56 and a new paragraph (h) is added to read as follows:

1 (g) Annual fees shall not be prorated and such fees shall be applica-  
2 ble to a year or any portion of a year. [Notwithstanding any inconsist-  
3 ent provision of this section, the difference collected between the fees  
4 set forth in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subdivision in effect on and  
5 after September first, two thousand nine and the fees set forth in such  
6 paragraphs in effect prior to such date shall be deposited to the credit  
7 of the dedicated highway and bridge trust fund.]

8 (H) FEES COLLECTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL BE DEPOSITED INTO  
9 THE ATV TRAIL FUND ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION NINETY-NINE-X OF THE  
10 STATE FINANCE LAW, AND USED ONLY FOR THOSE PURPOSES ENUMERATED IN SUCH  
11 SECTION.

12 S 5. Subdivision 12 of section 2282 of the vehicle and traffic law, as  
13 added by chapter 671 of the laws of 1985, is amended to read as follows:

14 12. Out of state ATV registration. (A) The registration provisions of  
15 this article shall not apply to non-resident owners who have registered  
16 their ATVs in compliance with the registration and licensing laws of the  
17 state, province, district or country of residence, provided that the ATV  
18 is appropriately identified in accordance with the laws of the state of  
19 residence. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to a resi-  
20 dent of another state, province, district or country which does not have  
21 an ATV registration and identification law. Nothing in this subdivision  
22 shall be construed to authorize the operation of any ATV contrary to the  
23 provisions of this article.

24 (B) NON-RESIDENT OWNERS WHO HAVE REGISTERED THEIR ATVS IN COMPLIANCE  
25 WITH THE REGISTRATION AND LICENSING LAWS OF A JURISDICTION OUT OF THE  
26 STATE, OR WHO RESIDE IN A JURISDICTION WHICH DOES NOT HAVE AN ATV REGIS-  
27 TRATION AND IDENTIFICATION LAW, SHALL PAY AN ANNUAL FEE, EQUAL TO THAT  
28 PROVIDED FOR PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (B) OF SUBDIVISION FOUR OF THIS  
29 SECTION TO LAWFULLY OPERATE SUCH ATV IN THE STATE ON LANDS OTHER THAN  
30 THOSE PRIVATELY OWNED BY THE ATV OWNER.

31 S 6. Section 2404 of the vehicle and traffic law, as added by chapter  
32 402 of the laws of 1986, paragraph (e) of subdivision 1 and subdivision  
33 3 as amended by chapter 554 of the laws of 2005, is amended to read as  
34 follows:

35 S 2404. Operating rules. 1. No person shall operate an ATV:

36 (a) at a rate of speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under  
37 the conditions and having regard to the actual and potential hazards  
38 then existing OR FASTER THAN FIFTY-FIVE MILES PER HOUR;

39 (b) in a careless, reckless or negligent manner so as to unreasonably  
40 endanger the person or property of another or cause injury or damage  
41 thereto;

42 (c) on the tracks or right-of-way of an operating railroad;

43 (d) in any tree nursery or planting in a manner that damages or  
44 destroys growing stock, or creates a substantial risk thereto;

45 (e) while pulling a person on skis or drawing or towing a sleigh,  
46 sled, toboggan, inflatable device or trailer which carries or transports  
47 any person unless attached by a rigid support, connection or towbar;

48 (f) on the frozen surface of public waters: within one hundred feet of  
49 any person other than a person riding on an ATV except at the minimum  
50 speed required to maintain forward movement of the ATV, nor within one  
51 hundred feet of a fishing shanty or shelter except at the minimum speed  
52 required to maintain forward movement of the ATV nor on an area which  
53 has been cleared of snow for skating purposes unless the area is neces-  
54 sary for access to the public water;

1 (g) within one hundred feet of a dwelling between midnight and six  
2 a.m., at a speed greater than minimum required to maintain forward move-  
3 ment of the ATV;

4 (h) on public lands, other than highways, or on private property of  
5 another while in an intoxicated condition or under the influence of  
6 narcotics or drugs;

7 (I) ON PRIVATE LANDS UNLESS EXPRESSLY PERMITTED; OR

8 (J) WHILE FAILING OR REFUSING TO COMPLY WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT.

9 2. The operator of an ATV shall:

10 (a) stop and yield to an authorized ambulance, civil defense, or  
11 police ATV or police vehicle being operated as an emergency vehicle and  
12 approaching from any direction;

13 (b) comply with any lawful order or direction of any police officer or  
14 other person duly empowered to enforce the laws relating to ATVs;

15 (C) KEEP THE ATV LIGHTS ON BETWEEN SUNSET AND SUNRISE;

16 (D) WEAR A HELMET;

17 (E) COMPLY WITH THE RULES OF THE ROAD INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO  
18 ADHERENCE TO SIGNAGE, POSTED SPEED LIMITS, TRAVELING ON THE RIGHT EDGE  
19 OF THE PAVED/ROAD SURFACE AND RIDING SINGLE FILE.

20 3. [No person shall ride on or in a sleigh, sled, toboggan, inflatable  
21 device or trailer which is being towed or trailed by an ATV unless  
22 attached by a rigid support, connection or towbar.

23 4. A person operating an ATV shall ride only upon the permanent and  
24 regular seat attached thereto, and such operator shall not carry any  
25 other person nor shall any other person ride on an ATV unless such ATV  
26 is designed to carry more than one person, in which event a passenger  
27 may ride upon the permanent and regular seat if designed for two  
28 persons, or upon another seat firmly attached to the ATV at the rear or  
29 side of the operator.

30 5.] For the purposes of title seven of this chapter, an ATV shall be a  
31 motor vehicle and the provisions of such title shall be applicable to  
32 ATVs.

33 [6.] 4. Local laws and ordinances. Nothing contained in this article  
34 shall be deemed to limit the authority of a county, city, town or  
35 village from adopting or amending a local law or ordinance which imposes  
36 stricter restrictions and conditions on the operation of ATVs than are  
37 provided or authorized by this section so long as such local law or  
38 ordinance is consistent with its authority to protect the order,  
39 conduct, health, safety and general welfare of persons or property.

40 S 7. Section 2411 of the vehicle and traffic law, as added by chapter  
41 402 of the laws of 1986, is amended to read as follows:

42 S 2411. 1. Liability for negligence. Negligence in the use [of] OR  
43 operation of an ATV shall be attributable to the owner. Every owner of  
44 an ATV USED OR OPERATED IN THIS STATE ON LANDS OTHER THAN THOSE PRIVATE-  
45 LY OWNED BY THE ATV OWNER MUST BE INSURED. OWNERS OF ATVS used or oper-  
46 ated in this state shall be liable and responsible for death or injury  
47 to [person] PERSONS or damage to property resulting from negligence in  
48 the use or operation of such ATV [by any person using or operating the  
49 same with the permission, express or implied, of such owner, provided,  
50 however, that such operator's negligence shall not be attributed to the  
51 owner as to any claim or cause of action accruing to the operator or his  
52 legal representative for such injuries or death].

53 2. DUTIES OF ATV OWNERS AND OPERATORS. IT IS RECOGNIZED THAT DRIVING  
54 AN ATV IS A VOLUNTARY ACTIVITY THAT MAY BE HAZARDOUS. IT SHALL BE THE  
55 DUTY OF ATV OWNERS AND OPERATORS:

56 (A) TO KEEP THEIR ATVS IN PROPER WORKING ORDER.

1 (B) TO FOLLOW ANY AND ALL OTHER RULES OF CONDUCT AS ARE PRESCRIBED  
2 PURSUANT TO SECTION 26.03 OF THE PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESER-  
3 VATION LAW.

4 (C) NOT TO OPERATE AN ATV IN ANY AREA NOT DESIGNATED FOR DRIVING ATVS.

5 (D) NOT TO OPERATE AN ATV BEYOND THE CONDITIONS THAT LIMIT SPEED.

6 (E) TO FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES WITH RULES OF THE TRAIL.

7 (F) NOT TO LEAVE THE SCENE OF ANY ACCIDENT RESULTING IN PERSONAL INJU-  
8 RY OR DAMAGE TO THE PROPERTY BEYOND THE TRAIL.

9 S 8. The state finance law is amended by adding a new section 99-x to  
10 read as follows:

11 S 99-X. ATV TRAIL FUND. 1. THERE IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED IN THE JOINT  
12 CUSTODY OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVA-  
13 TION AND THE COMPTROLLER A FUND TO BE KNOWN AS THE "ATV TRAIL FUND".

14 2. THE ATV TRAIL FUND SHALL CONSIST OF MONEYS APPROPRIATED THERETO,  
15 AND FUNDS TRANSFERRED FROM ANY OTHER FUND OR SOURCE INCLUDING THE  
16 PAYMENT OF FEES PURSUANT TO SECTION TWENTY-TWO HUNDRED EIGHTY-TWO OF THE  
17 VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW.

18 3. TEN PERCENT OF ALL MONEYS IN THE ATV TRAIL FUND SHALL BE AVAILABLE  
19 FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OF ADMINISTERING SUCH FUND. FORTY-FIVE  
20 PERCENT OF ALL MONEYS IN THE ATV TRAIL FUND SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR  
21 THE MAINTENANCE, CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE STATEWIDE TRAIL  
22 SYSTEM. FORTY-FIVE PERCENT OF ALL MONEYS IN THE ATV TRAIL FUND SHALL BE  
23 MADE AVAILABLE FOR ENFORCING AND EDUCATING THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE  
24 PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE TWENTY-SIX OF THE PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC  
25 PRESERVATION LAW.

26 4. MONIES SHALL BE PAYABLE FROM THE FUND ON THE AUDIT AND WARRANT OF  
27 THE STATE COMPTROLLER ON VOUCHERS APPROVED AND CERTIFIED BY THE COMMIS-  
28 SIONER OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION.

29 S 9. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 of section 2281 of the vehicle and  
30 traffic law, as amended by chapter 319 of the laws of 1997, is amended  
31 to read as follows:

32 (a) "All terrain vehicle" or "ATV" means any self-propelled vehicle  
33 which is manufactured for sale for operation primarily on off-highway  
34 trails or off-highway competitions and only incidentally operated on  
35 public highways providing that such vehicle does not exceed seventy  
36 inches in width, or one thousand EIGHT HUNDRED pounds dry weight.  
37 Provided, however, this definition shall not include a "snowmobile" or  
38 other self-propelled vehicles manufactured for off-highway use exclu-  
39 sively designed for travel on snow or ice, steered by skis or runners  
40 and supported in whole or in part by one or more skis, belts or cleats  
41 which utilize an endless belt tread.

42 S 10. The vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new section  
43 2414 to read as follows:

44 S 2414. TRESPASS VIOLATION FINE. OPERATORS OF ATVS WHICH HAVE BEEN  
45 CITED FOR TRESPASS SHALL BE FINED ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS FOR A FIRST  
46 VIOLATION; TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS FOR A SECOND VIOLATION WITHIN THREE  
47 HUNDRED SIXTY-FIVE DAYS OF THE INITIAL VIOLATION; AND FIVE HUNDRED  
48 DOLLARS FOR SUBSEQUENT VIOLATIONS WITHIN THREE HUNDRED SIXTY-FIVE DAYS  
49 OF THE INITIAL VIOLATION. THE MONEY COLLECTED FROM THE FINES SHALL BE  
50 PUT INTO THE ATV TRAIL FUND ESTABLISHED BY SECTION NINETY-NINE-X OF THE  
51 STATE FINANCE LAW AND SHALL BE SPLIT FIFTY PERCENT FOR ENFORCEMENT,  
52 EDUCATION AND REMEDIATION AND THE OTHER FIFTY PERCENT FOR TRAIL MAINTEN-  
53 NANCE AND TRAIL CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT.

54 S 11. This act shall take effect immediately.