

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Omnibus Off-road Vehicle Bill

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- 1** **Civil citation.** Allows them to be issued to any off-road vehicle driver who receives a citation under section 84.773, subdivision 2, relating to wetland disturbance and would require restitution for damage and monetary penalties.
- 2** **Damage account.** Allows money in the OHV damage account to be used for repair of driveways from OHV's operating in road rights-of-way.
- 3** **Trail maintenance.** Permits the DNR commissioner to allow DNR personnel and equipment to assist local governmental units in off-highway (OHV) trail maintenance.
- 4** **Safety program.** Mandates the DNR establish an off-highway vehicle safety and conservation grant program to encourage clubs to educate their members and improve and maintain OHV trails. Subdivisions 3 and 4 state the eligibility for and intended use of grants to the OHV clubs.
- 5** **Worker displacement.** Prohibits public worker displacement by volunteers in the OHV safety program.
- 6** **Registration decal.** States where the registration decal should be placed on an off-highway motorcycle that is operated on public land.
- 7** **Noise emissions.** Requires, after January 1, 2006, that off-highway motorcycles operated on public lands be equipped with sound-muzzling equipment limiting the decibels of noise when measured under certain conditions.
- 8** **Safety education.** Requires an off-highway motorcycle driver with a violation to complete the authorized safety education and training program before driving the vehicle again.
- 9** **General requirements.** Clarifies when a person can operate an OHV on DNR and OHV trail land.
- 10** **Education and training.** Requires the DNR to establish a comprehensive OHV safety

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education and training program, with safety certificates for 16 to 18 year-olds and repeat course work for OHV law violators.

- 11** **Program fee.** Allows an extra \$5 to be charged by a safety instructor for their class material and expenses.
- 12** **Training requirements.** States a certain independent study course for all-terrain vehicle drivers 16 years of age or older, and repeat requirements for law violators.
- 13** **Youth operators.** Allows a child between 10 years and 12 years to operate an all-terrain vehicle with engine capacity up to 90cc on public lands with a guardian present.
- 14** **Passengers.** Clarifies law relating to all-terrain vehicle riders and passengers.
- 15** **Forest use.** Allows OHV use off-trail and in limited or managed forests, except in Dorer Memorial Forest, when hunting or retrieving big game, tending traps, or trapping minnows when possessing legal licenses.
- 16** Technical relating to section 14.
- 17** **Northshore trail.** Specifies the section of the trail for use by all-terrain vehicles.
- 18** **Rulemaking exemption.** States that changes of designation for forest trails are not subject to chapter 14 rules.
- 19** **Forest classification.** Adds "limited forests" for review classification by the DNR by the end of 2006, and mandates all forest lands north of highway 2 must be classified as managed for OHV use.
- 20** **Required rulemaking.** Requires the commissioner to amend rules to allow an all-terrain vehicle to be allowed on private land where deer hunting by firearms is permitted under certain conditions.
- 21** **Appropriation.** Appropriates \$200,000 for the OHV safety and grant program; and blank amounts for additional grants-in-aid, to produce an interactive CD-ROM tool for off-road motorcycle training, and for the safety and education training program.