

March 13, 2003

H 473. ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE REGISTRATION. TO REQUIRE THE REGISTRATION OF ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES. Enacts new Part 11C of Art. 3, Ch. 20 to establish registration requirements for all terrain vehicles, regulate equipment required on such vehicles, and place limitations on vehicles' operation. Defines "all-terrain vehicle" as any nonhighway recreational vehicle when used for cross-country travel on trails or on any one or a combination of the following: land, water, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, and natural terrain; but not including an electric personal assistive mobility device, a snowmobile, an airmobile, or a construction or logging vehicle when such vehicles are used for common function, a farm vehicle used for farming purposes, or a vehicle used only for emergency, military, law enforcement or fire control purposes. Provides that vehicle need not be registered when operated on the property of its owner, for official use by a federal, state or municipal agency if labeled with the name or seal of agency in a manner approved by Comm'r of Motor Vehicles, or on privately owned land upon written consent of the owner. Establishes registration fee of \$35.00. Requires that vehicle be equipped with: at least one headlight which shall be used from 30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes before sunrise; a red rear light; brakes in good mechanical condition; an efficient muffler that reduces maximum noise to no more than 82 decibels at 50 feet in a normal operating environment; a windshield free from sharp or jagged edges; and a US Forest Service qualified spark arrester. Delineates a number of restrictions on vehicles' operation. Provides that violations shall be punishable under GS 20-176(a) and (b) and may result in license revocation. Provides that landowners are liable for property damage or personal injury resulting from operation of vehicle only where landowner charges a fee or damage is intentionally inflicted. Effective Dec. 1, 2003.

Intro. by Baker.

Ref. to Judiciary III	GS 20
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April 22, 2003

H 473. LRC STUDY ATV REGISTRATION (NEW). Intro. 3/13/03. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Completely rewrites bill to direct Legislative Research Comm'n to study registration and regulation of use of all-terrain vehicles. Comm'n to report findings and any recommended legislation to 2004 legislative session.