
By: Senator Hafer

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 1997

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Off-Road Vehicles - Registration Fees**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a certain amount for the fee to register certain off-road
4 vehicles; specifying a certain allocation for the revenues derived from the fees;
5 making certain stylistic changes; and generally relating to certain fees for off-road
6 vehicles.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Natural Resources
9 Section 5-209(b)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (1989 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article - Natural Resources**

15 5-209.

16 (b) (1) The Secretary shall promulgate rules and regulations regarding
17 equipment standards and the operation of off-road vehicles by type, as defined in §
18 10-410(d) of this article, on property owned or controlled by the Department.

19 (2) [He] THE SECRETARY shall conduct appropriate studies and[, by
20 January 1, 1975 he shall] designate and identify areas for use by the general public for
21 operation of motorcycles, snowmobiles and other off-road vehicles on that property
22 exclusive of wildlife management areas or State fisheries management areas to the extent
23 such use is compatible with the character and established uses of property controlled by
24 the Department. [Prior to March 31, 1976, every]

25 (3) EACH off-road vehicle to be used on Department of Natural Resources
26 lands shall be registered and provided suitable identification by the Department of
27 Natural Resources, which shall charge [an] A \$25 annual uniform fee for all registrants[,
28 revenues].

29 (4) (I) \$15 OF THE REVENUES derived from [which] EACH FEE shall be
30 used to acquire and maintain areas for off-road vehicle use by the general public[.]; AND

2

1 (II) \$10 OF THE REVENUES DERIVED FROM EACH FEE SHALL BE
2 USED BY THE WILDLIFE DIVISION IN THE DEPARTMENT.

3 (5) Any property to be acquired or designated for off-road vehicle use shall
4 be subject to a public hearing held in the county or counties wherein the property is
5 situated. However, no off-road vehicle may be permitted where its operation will damage
6 the wildland character of the property or where the noise from its operation will be
7 audible at or interfere with the use of a picnic or camping area open to public use.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
9 October 1, 1997.