

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2015 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 812

(Delegate Hornberger, *et al.*)

Environment and Transportation

Judicial Proceedings

Vehicle Laws - All-Terrain Vehicles - Access to Farms

This bill authorizes a local jurisdiction to permit a person to cross a local highway on an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) at a right angle for the purpose of accessing a farm or moving from one part of a farm to another part of the same farm.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2015.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill is not anticipated to materially affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: The bill is not anticipated to materially affect local operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: The Maryland Vehicle Law allows a local jurisdiction, in the reasonable exercise of its police powers, to permit, restrict, or otherwise govern specified activities on local highways, including allowing a snowmobile in Garrett County to cross a local highway at a right angle to gain access to a snowmobile trail and allowing a golf cart in Allegany County to cross a local highway to access any portion of a golf course.

An ATV is not defined under the Maryland Vehicle Law, but the definition of an “off-highway recreational vehicle” (OHRV) specifies that an OHRV is commonly known as an ATV. Additionally, an ATV is included within the Maryland Vehicle Law definition of a “dirt bike.”

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Kent, Montgomery, and St. Mary's counties; Department of State Police; Maryland Department of Transportation; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 3, 2015
min/ljm

Analysis by: Evan M. Isaacson

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510