

Chapter 433

(House Bill 1143)

AN ACT concerning

Allegany County and Garrett County – All-Terrain Vehicles and Snowmobiles

FOR the purpose of expanding the definition of all-terrain vehicle in provisions governing the use of all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles in Allegany County and Garrett County to include off-highway motorcycles; expanding the area of a highway on which Allegany County and Garrett County may authorize all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles to operate; and generally relating to all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles in Allegany County and Garrett County.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Transportation
Section 21–104.1 and 25–102(a)(14)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2020 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

Article – Transportation

21–104.1.

(a) IN THIS SECTION, “ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE” INCLUDES AN OFF-HIGHWAY MOTORCYCLE.

(B) Any person operating an all-terrain vehicle or a snowmobile on any portion of a highway designated for all-terrain vehicle or snowmobile use under § 25–102(a)(14) of this article has all the rights granted to and is subject to all the duties required of the driver of a vehicle by this title, except for those provisions of this title that by their very nature cannot apply.

[(b)] (C) In Allegany County and Garrett County a person may not operate an all-terrain vehicle or a snowmobile on a controlled access highway.

[(c)] (D) Except as provided in subsection **[(b)] (C)** of this section, in Allegany County and Garrett County a person may operate an all-terrain vehicle or a snowmobile on a State highway when crossing or traveling on the State highway in accordance with § 25–102(a)(14) of this article.

25–102.

(a) The provisions of the Maryland Vehicle Law do not prevent a local authority, in the reasonable exercise of its police power, from exercising the following powers as to highways under its jurisdiction:

(14) (i) **IN THIS PARAGRAPH, “ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE” INCLUDES AN OFF-HIGHWAY MOTORCYCLE.**

(II) 1. Subject to item 2 of this item, except in Allegany County and Garrett County, designating a certain portion of highways upon which snowmobiles may travel for the sole purpose of gaining access to snowmobile trails; but

2. Designating only those highways which divide snowmobile trails and which would otherwise obstruct direct access between snowmobile trails; and

[(ii)] (III) In Allegany County and Garrett County:

1. Authorizing a person to:

A. Cross a highway on an all-terrain vehicle or a snowmobile at a right angle at a speed of not more than 25 miles per hour; or

B. Operate an all-terrain vehicle or a snowmobile on not more than **[2] 5** miles of highway at a speed of not more than 25 miles per hour; and

2. Designating a certain portion of highways upon which all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles may travel at a speed of not more than 25 miles per hour for the sole purpose of gaining access to:

A. Trails on which the operation of an all-terrain vehicle or a snowmobile is authorized;

B. Fields; or

C. Another area where the operation of an all-terrain vehicle or a snowmobile is authorized;

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2022.

Approved by the Governor, May 16, 2022.