



BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Brandon M. Scott
Mayor

Michael S. Harrison
Police Commissioner

TO: The Honorable Members of the Environment & Transportation Committee
FROM: Erin C. Murphy, Esq., Director of Government Affairs, Baltimore Police Dept.
RE: House Bill 928 Off-the-Road Motorcycles- Local Regulation & Enforcement
DATE: March 1, 2023

POSITION: SUPPORT

Chair Barve, Vice-Chair Stein, and members of the Committee, please be advised that the Baltimore Police Department **supports** House Bill 928.

House Bill 928 provides that each county and Baltimore City may regulate the operation of off-the-road motorcycles (commonly known as mini-bikes) and all terrain vehicles. Such regulation includes that these vehicles be registered and impose a fee for registration. Further, the bill provides that the county and Baltimore City may enforce the motor vehicle laws for violations involving these vehicles. Finally, the bill provides that the county and Baltimore City enact legislation governing the impoundment or, if lawful, the forfeiture of the vehicles.

Baltimore City has seen an increase of off-the-road motorcycles and all terrain vehicles being operated throughout the jurisdiction and serious accidents have occurred as a result. This bill will offer a clear definition of “off the road” vehicles which will aid the courts in enforcing traffic violations. The mandatory registration will help the Baltimore Police Department identify these vehicles when being operated. Further, the lawful seizure of these vehicles will deter further violations.

Overall, the Baltimore Police Department believes that this bill would greatly assist in the prevention of crimes and contribute to our ability to provide for the public safety. Therefore, the Baltimore Police Department respectfully requests a **favorable** report on House Bill 928.