



Charles County Government

CHARLES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., *President*
Ralph E. Patterson, II, M.A., *Vice President*
Gilbert O. Bowling, III
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Mark Belton
County Administrator

March 14, 2023

Bill: HB 944 – Motorized Minibikes - Regulation and Enforcement
Committee: House – Environment and Transportation
Position: FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS

Dear Chairman Barve, Vice Chairman Stein, and Members:

On behalf of the Charles County Commissioners, this letter is to express the support of the Board for HB 944— Motorized Minibikes - Regulation and Enforcement, with amendments.

The intention of HB 944 is to enable the County Commissioners to pass a local law establishing regulations of off-road motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles. While these vehicles are already illegal for use on public roadways and private property without the permission of the owner, violators have not been adequately deterred, and often times reclaim their vehicles and resume the prohibited activity in short order. Off-road motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles, when operated illegally, are a threat to other motor vehicles and pedestrians alike. For this reason, we are seeking the unambiguous authority by the General Assembly to pass a local law to include age restrictions, registration requirements and penalties.

To fully meet the needs of our community in addressing this problem, we respectfully request an amendment to HB 944 in order to include all-terrain vehicles, and our ability to implement registration and impoundment/storage fees. A copy of the proposed amendment is attached hereto.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide our support for HB 944.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., consisting of stylized initials and a surname.

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President

cc: Charles County Delegation

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AMENDMENTS
PREPARED
BY THE
DEPT. OF LEGISLATIVE
SERVICES

17 FEB 23

AMENDMENTS

TO HOUSE BILL

944

BY: Charles County Delegation
(To be offered in the Environment and Transportation Committee)
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, after “**Minibikes**” insert “and All-Terrain Vehicles”; in line 3, after “regulate” insert “all-terrain vehicles operated on four tires and”; in line 5, after “involving” insert “all-terrain vehicles operated on four tires and”; and in line 6, after the second “to” insert “all-terrain vehicles operated on four tires and”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 3, in line 23, after “**REGULATING**” insert “**ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES OPERATED ON FOUR TIRES AND MOTORIZED MINIBIKES IN THE COUNTY TO INCLUDE (i) REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS AND FEES; (II) AGE RESTRICTIONS; AND (III) IMPOUNDMENT AND DAILY STORAGE FEES FOR MINIBIKES AND ALL TERRAIN VEHICLES USED IN VIOLATION OF TITLE 21 SUBTITLE 900 OF THESE ARTICLE, 6-404 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE, OR 6-405 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE**”; and in line 25, after “**INVOLVING**” insert “**ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES OPERATED ON FOUR TIRES AND**”.