



Charles County Government

CHARLES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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Mark Belton
County Administrator

February 14, 2023

Bill: SB373 – Motorized Minibikes - Regulation and Enforcement
Committee: Senate – Judicial Proceedings
Position: FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS

Dear Chairman Smith, Vice Chairman Waldstreicher, and Members:

On behalf of the Charles County Commissioners, this letter is to express the support of the Board for SB 373— Motorized Minibikes - Regulation and Enforcement with amendments.

The intention of SB 373 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.

As written, SB 373 does not meet the needs of our local law enforcement as the bill does not address all-terrain vehicles. We propose that the bill be amended to include all-terrain vehicles. A copy of the proposed amendment is attached hereto.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide our support for SB 373.

Sincerely,



Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President

cc: Charles County Delegation

BILL DRAFT - Transportation §25-102.1

AN ACT concerning

Off-the Road Motorcycles and All-Terrain Vehicles -Charles County - Regulation

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Commissioners of Charles County to regulate the use off-road vehicles in Charles County and prescribe penalties for violations.

BY adding to

Article - Transportation
Section 25-102.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

Article- Transportation

25-102.1

(c)

(1) THIS SECTION ONLY APPLIES IN CHARLES COUNTY.

(2) THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY REGULATE THE OPERATION OF THE OFF-THE-ROAD MOTORCYCLES AND ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES. THE REGULATIONS MAY INCLUDE:

(i) REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS;

(ii) AGE RESTRICTIONS; AND

(iii) IMPOUNDMENT OF VEHICLES USED IN VIOLATION OF TITLE 21, SUBTITLE 900, OF THIS ARTICLE, §6-404 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE, OR §6-405 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2023.