

**SB0711 Support.pdf**

Uploaded by: James Ratino

Position: FAV

Hi,

My name is James Ratino, President of the Maryland Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance. Our members and constituents support SB0711. SB0711 streamlines accountability to the direct funders of the existing OHV Title Tax Fund, while expanding the funding's uses. With accountability, the creation of an oversight board with stakeholders and publishing annual expense reports will help make sure those providing money for this funding regularly provide input for the types of access they want to see and be assured the funds are going there. The second increase in use of funding. Sustainable trail development and maintenance can be expensive, and this will help ensure both can be done. Finally is the expanded uses. This would allow ORV to be the only user group self-funding their own access. Funds will go to general park maintenance, camping development, as well as rider awareness and safety classes. Ensuring riders are aware of the public places for recreation, and they know how to do so safely and sustainably.

These changes ensure that the sole funding base for the OHV Title Tax Fund is able to fund the type of access we would like to see.

Thank you,

James Ratino

# **SB711 Jeffrey Nelson**

Uploaded by: Jeff Nelson

Position: FAV



jeff nelson &lt;neffjefr@gmail.com&gt;

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**Fwd: SB0711**

1 message

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**JEFFREY NELSON** <carbonunitone@comcast.net>  
To: Jeff Nelson <neffjefr@gmail.com>

Mon, Mar 3, 2025 at 2:20 PM

----- Original Message -----

From: JEFFREY NELSON &lt;carbonunitone@comcast.net&gt;

To: JEFFREY NELSON &lt;carbonunitone@comcast.net&gt;

Date: 03/03/2025 10:17 AM EST

Subject: SB0711

Hi,

My name is Jeff Nelson, a long time Off-Road Vehicle enthusiast and I support SB0711. This Bill does several beneficial things for the public. First is accountability, the creation of an oversight board with stakeholders and publishing annual expense reports will help make sure end users can regularly provide input for the types of access they want to see and be assured the funds are going there. The second increase in use of funding. Sustainable trail development and maintenance can be expensive, and this will help ensure both can be done. Last but not least is the expanded uses. This would allow ORV to be the only user group self-funding their own access. Funds will go to general park maintenance, camping development, as well as rider awareness and safety classes. Ensuring riders are aware of the public places for recreation, and they know how to do so safely and sustainably. I encourage you to act favorable to this bill

Thank you  
Jeff Nelson

# **SB711.pdf**

Uploaded by: Mike McKay

Position: FAV

**MIKE MCKAY**  
*Legislative District 1*  
Garrett, Allegany, and Washington Counties



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Judicial Proceedings Committee  
Executive Nominations Committee

**THE SENATE OF MARYLAND**  
**ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401**

Senate Bill 711 – Off-Highway Recreational Vehicle Trail Fund and Off-Highway Recreational Vehicle  
Recreation Oversight Board – Alterations and Establishment

January 26, 2025

Dear Chairman Smith, Vice Chairman Waldstreicher, and Members of the Committee,

The bill alters the use of the Off-Highway Recreational Vehicle Trail Fund and establishes the OHRV Recreational Oversight Board. The board will then advise the Secretary of Natural Resources on the operation, acquisition, regulation, and oversight of OHRV trails and recreation in Maryland. The board will also review and approve expenditures from the OHRV Trail fund. The bill will help increase revenue percentages from the excise tax beginning in Fiscal Year 2026. I thank you all for your time and ask for a favorable vote.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike McKay".

Senator Mike McKay

Representing the Appalachia Region of Maryland

Serving Garrett, Allegany, and Washington Counties

**SB0711\_DNR\_SWA\_JPR\_3-4-25.pdf**

Uploaded by: Emily Wilson

Position: FWA



Wes Moore, Governor  
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor  
Josh Kurtz, Secretary  
David Goshorn, Deputy Secretary

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March 4, 2025

**BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 711 – First Reader**

**SHORT TITLE: Off-Highway Recreational Vehicle Oversight Board - Establishment**

**DEPARTMENT’S POSITION: SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT**

**EXPLANATION OF DEPARTMENT’S POSITION**

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The Department supports SB 711 with amendments. This bill establishes a new board to review and approve the Department’s expenditures for the design, maintenance, and future development of off-highway (off-road) trails and features for riders of all-terrain style vehicles. Improving existing locations and identifying new locations for riders of off-road vehicles in Maryland remains a priority for the Department. The riding community has been responsible for generating revenue for trail and facility development in Maryland, and funding from those efforts could eliminate the need to use general funds to oversee this group.

The amendments remove the mandatory review, approval, and expenditure details from the bill. As amended, the bill would create a traditional advisory body responsible for providing non-binding advice to the Department. This is consistent with all other commissions advising the Department today.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

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The Department supports sustainable, well-regulated, and ecologically compatible off-road trail riding on public lands in Maryland. Currently, there are two locations where the riders of these vehicles can enjoy a safe and user-friendly experience – Wolf Den Run State Park in Kitzmiller and St. John’s Rock Trail in La Vale. In the meantime, off-road vehicle sales and rider interest continues to grow. The Department is working hard to meet that demand while acknowledging the value in partnering with the riders and retailers in this community to assist in those efforts. The Department also supports a relatively new Office of Outdoor Recreation, whose charge includes working with this user group as it relates to the existing and future trail riding opportunities in Maryland, creating a well-timed opportunity borne of this legislation.

**BILL EXPLANATION**

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SB 711 requires the Department to establish an off-highway recreational vehicle oversight board.

Contact: Emily Wilson, Director, Legislative and Constituent Services (Acting)  
emilyh.wilson@maryland.gov ♦ 410-260-8426 (office) ♦ 443-223-1176 (cell)



BY:  
(To be offered in the Judicial Proceedings Committee)

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 711  
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike beginning with “and” in line 4 down through “expenditures” in line 5.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 3, in line 10, strike “**SHALL:**” and substitute “**SHALL**”; in line 11, strike “**(1)**”; in the same line, strike “**ADVISE**” and substitute “**ADVISE**”; and strike beginning with “**STATE;**” in line 13 down through “**SECTION**” in line 15” and substitute “**STATE**”.

On pages 3 through 4, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 16 on page 3 through line 5 on page 4, inclusive.