

SENATE No. 2515

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)

SENATE, Thursday, December 15, 2016

The committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the Senate Bill establishing a snowmobile educational safety program (Senate, No. 1955),-- reports, recommending that the same ought to pass with an amendment substituting a new draft with the same title (Senate, No. 2515).

For the committee,
Karen E. Spilka

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An Act establishing a snowmobile educational safety program.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 2A of chapter 21 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “Massachusetts”, in line 12, the
3 following words:- , the Snowmobile Association of Massachusetts, Inc.

4 SECTION 2. Section 20 of chapter 90B of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
5 amended by inserting after the definition of “directly supervised” the following definition:-

6 “Director”, the director of law enforcement of the office of law enforcement or a
7 designee.

8 SECTION 3. Said section 20 of said chapter 90B, as so appearing, is hereby further
9 amended by inserting after the definition of “Law Enforcement Officer” the following
10 definition:-

11 “Office of Law Enforcement” or “Office of Environmental Law Enforcement”, the office
12 of law enforcement established pursuant to section 10A of chapter 21A.

13 SECTION 4. Said chapter 90B is hereby further amended by inserting after section 21 the
14 following section:-

15 Section 21A. (a) No person who is less than 18 years of age shall operate a snow vehicle
16 unless that person has successfully completed a snow vehicle safety and responsibility course
17 approved by the director of environmental law enforcement. The director may exempt a
18 participant of a sanctioned race, rally or event who is not a resident of the commonwealth from
19 the requirements of this section. The course shall include, but shall not be limited to, notification
20 of the criminal penalties and forfeiture process for certain violations of law relative to the safe
21 operation of snow vehicles. The snow vehicle safety and responsibility course shall provide not
22 less than 6 hours of instruction. A parent or legal guardian of an operator of a snow vehicle who
23 is less than 14 years of age shall participate in not less than 1 session of the snow vehicle safety
24 and responsibility course or additional sessions as may be required by the director. An operator
25 shall carry proof of the successful completion of the course while operating a snow vehicle.
26 Proof of an operator's successful completion of another state's equivalent snow vehicle safety and
27 responsibility course, as determined by the director, shall be valid in the commonwealth.

28 (b) The requirements of subsection (a) shall not apply to a person who is: (i) 14 years of
29 age or older and is operating a snow vehicle on land owned by that person or their spouse or on
30 land owned by a parent, sibling, grandparent, step-parent, step-sibling or legal guardian of that
31 person or their spouse; (ii) less than 14 years of age and is accompanied by a person not less than
32 18 years of age who has successfully completed a snow vehicle safety and responsibility course;
33 (iii) operating a snow vehicle under the direct supervision of an instructor for a program certified
34 by the director; or (iv) exempted by regulation of the director.