

HOUSE BILL 1104

By Hill T

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;  
Title 11; Title 55 and Title 70, relative to studying  
certain off-highway vehicle matters.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 70, is amended by adding the following  
as a new chapter:

(a)

(1) There is created the off-highway vehicle advisory committee, to be  
composed of nine (9) members as follows:

(A) Three (3) persons to be appointed by the governor;

(B) Three (3) persons to be appointed by the speaker of the  
senate; and

(C) Three (3) persons to be appointed by the speaker of the  
house of representatives.

(2) It is the legislative intent that the appointees include representatives  
from any of the following groups:

(A) Off-highway vehicle recreation interests and groups;

(B) Groups or associations of private landowners who are or may  
be willing sellers of property for potential use as off-highway recreation  
areas, trails, and facilities;

(C) Licensed off-highway vehicle dealers;

(D) State and local law enforcement officers; and

(E) Employees or other representatives of the wildlife resources agency.

(3) As used in this section, "off-highway vehicle":

(A) Means any vehicle capable of traveling off highways within the state; and

(B) Includes all-terrain vehicles, dune buggies, and other four-wheeled vehicles used for off-road activities.

(b) On or before January 1, 2016, the advisory committee shall study and make recommendations to the general assembly regarding the following:

(1) The provision of training, instruction, or education to potential and existing off-highway vehicle owners and operators within this state regarding the safe operation of off-highway vehicles;

(2) The existing and potential off-highway vehicle recreation areas, trails, and other facilities within this state that allow or are suitable for off-highway vehicle use, whether or not they are owned or operated by private landowners or the state, local governments, or the United States, including the advisory committee's development of an inventory of those areas; and

(3) The cost and feasibility of providing safety training, instruction, and education; and acquiring, constructing, developing, and maintaining off-highway vehicle areas on public or private lands, including the identification of all private and public funding sources, such as imposition of a fee to defray the cost.

(c) The committee shall also investigate the laws and policies of other states relating to off-highway vehicle activities, including any safety programs and policies for developing land for off-highway vehicle use.

(d) The committee shall elect a chair, vice chair, and other officers as the committee deems necessary.

(e) Upon request, the committee shall receive staff assistance in its operations from staff and employees of the general assembly and employees and other representatives of the wildlife resources agency.

(f) The members of the committee shall serve without compensation and without travel expenses.

(g) The committee shall report its findings and recommendations to the general assembly no later than January 1, 2016, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.