

SENATE BILL 1370

By Southerland

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 3; Title 55, Chapter 4 and Title 55, Chapter 8, relative to operation of off-highway vehicles on certain roads.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-8-203(a), is amended by deleting the subsection and substituting instead:

(a) A Class I off-highway vehicle or Class II off-highway vehicle, as defined in § 55-8-101, that is registered pursuant to chapter 4, part 7 of this title may be operated on county roads or state highways if the requirements in this section are met. A Class I or Class II off-highway vehicle operated on county roads or state highways pursuant to this subsection (a) shall not be operated on the interstate and national defense highway system and must only be operated on county roads or state highways where the posted speed limit is fifty-five miles per hour (55 mph) or less.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-8-203(b), is amended by deleting "on county roads" and substituting instead "on county roads or state highways".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-8-203(c), is amended by deleting "on the county roads" and substituting instead "on the county roads or state highways".

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-8-203(e), is amended by deleting "upon a county road" and substituting instead "upon a county road or a state highway".

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-8-203(g)(5), is amended by deleting "county roads" and substituting instead "county roads or state highways".

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-8-203(h), is amended by deleting the subsection and substituting instead:

(h) This section does not:

(1) Authorize the operation on county roads or state highways of a motorcycle commonly referred to as a dirt bike, snowmobile, or other vehicle designed to travel exclusively over snow or ice, or an all-terrain vehicle or off-highway vehicle other than Class I or Class II off-highway vehicles; or

(2) Require a person to obtain a license pursuant to chapter 17 of this title in order to transfer, sell, or lease a Class I or Class II off-highway vehicle.

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-8-203, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

(i) As used in this section, "county road" means a road that has been classified as a county road pursuant to § 54-10-103 or a road of which a county has otherwise assumed control, and does not include a state highway or an interstate or national defense highway.

SECTION 8. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-8-185(a), is amended by deleting "county roads" and substituting instead "county roads or state highways".

SECTION 9. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-701(c), is amended by deleting "upon a county road" and substituting instead "upon a county road or a state highway".

SECTION 10. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-3-101(d), is amended by deleting "county roads" and substituting instead "county roads and state highways".

SECTION 11. For the purpose of promulgating rules, this act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act takes effect January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.