

1 **OFF-ROAD VEHICLE SAFETY EDUCATION**

2 2022 GENERAL SESSION

3 STATE OF UTAH

4 **Chief Sponsor: Carl R. Albrecht**

5 Senate Sponsor: Curtis S. Bramble

7 **LONG TITLE**

8 **General Description:**

9 This bill amends provisions related to off-highway vehicle safety education and
10 registration.

11 **Highlighted Provisions:**

12 This bill:

- 13 ▶ requires any individual operating an off-highway vehicle to complete an online
14 education course;
- 15 ▶ requires an individual under 18 years old without a driver license to complete an
16 operational safety course before operating an off-highway vehicle;
- 17 ▶ requires an individual convicted of certain off-highway vehicle laws to perform
18 community services to repair damages caused by the violation;
- 19 ▶ amends provisions related to off-highway vehicle registration and requires issuance
20 and display of a license plate on each off-highway vehicle; and
- 21 ▶ makes technical changes.

22 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

23 None

24 **Other Special Clauses:**

25 This bill provides a special effective date.

26 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

27 AMENDS:

28 **41-22-3**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapters 135 and 280

29 **41-22-5.1**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 280

- 30 41-22-12.2, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 412
- 31 41-22-12.5, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 412
- 32 41-22-19, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2012, Chapter 71
- 33 41-22-30, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapters 110 and 280
- 34 41-22-31, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 280
- 35 41-22-35, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 280



37 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

38 Section 1. Section 41-22-3 is amended to read:

39 **41-22-3. Registration of vehicles -- Application -- Issuance of sticker and card --**
 40 **Proof of property tax payment -- Records.**

41 (1) (a) Unless exempted under Section 41-22-9, a person may not operate or transport
 42 and an owner may not give another person permission to operate or transport any off-highway
 43 vehicle on any public land, trail, street, or highway in this state unless the off-highway vehicle
 44 is registered under this chapter for the current year.

45 (b) Unless exempted under Section 41-22-9, a dealer may not sell an off-highway
 46 vehicle which can be used or transported on any public land, trail, street, or highway in this
 47 state, unless the off-highway vehicle is registered or is in the process of being registered under
 48 this chapter for the current year.

49 (c) Unless specifically provided in this chapter, the division shall administer license
 50 plates, decals, and registration of off-highway vehicles in accordance with Chapter 1a, Motor
 51 Vehicle Act.

52 (2) (a) The owner of an off-highway vehicle subject to registration under this chapter
 53 shall apply to the Motor Vehicle Division for registration on forms approved by the Motor
 54 Vehicle Division.

55 (b) An owner of an off-highway vehicle may apply for automatic registration renewal
 56 as described in Section 41-1a-216.

57 (3) Each application for registration of an off-highway vehicle shall be accompanied

58 by:

59 (a) evidence of ownership, a title, or a manufacturer's certificate of origin, and a bill of
60 sale showing ownership, make, model, horsepower or displacement, and serial number;

61 (b) the past registration card; or

62 (c) the fee for a duplicate.

63 (4) (a) (i) Beginning on January 1, 2023, except as provided in Subsection (4)(e), the
64 first time an off-highway vehicle is registered, the Motor Vehicle Division shall issue one
65 off-highway vehicle license plate, a registration decal, and a registration card.

66 (ii) If an off-highway vehicle has been registered previously in this state but has not
67 been issued an off-highway vehicle license plate, beginning on January 1, 2023, upon
68 application for registration renewal, the Motor Vehicle Division shall issue one off-highway
69 vehicle license plate, a registration decal, and a registration card.

70 ~~[(4)(a)]~~ (b) Upon each annual registration, the Motor Vehicle Division shall issue a
71 registration ~~[sticker]~~ decal and a registration card for each off-highway vehicle registered.

72 ~~[(b)]~~ (c) The ~~[registration sticker shall]~~ off-highway vehicle license plate:

73 (i) shall contain a unique five-digit number ~~[using numbers, letters, or combination of~~
74 ~~numbers and letters]~~ to identify the off-highway vehicle for which it is issued;

75 (ii) shall be affixed to the rear of the off-highway vehicle for which it is issued in a
76 plainly visible and upright position as prescribed by rule of the division under Section
77 41-22-5.1; ~~[and]~~

78 (iii) shall be maintained free of foreign materials and in a condition to be clearly
79 legible~~[-];~~

80 (iv) shall be a distinct tan color with black lettering to identify the license plate as an
81 off-highway vehicle license plate;

82 (v) shall have a location to attach the registration decal; and

83 (vi) may not be a personalized license plate or a special group license plate.

84 ~~[(e)]~~ (d) At all times, a registration card shall be kept with the off-highway vehicle and
85 shall be available for inspection by a law enforcement officer.

86 (e) An off-highway vehicle that is a motorcycle is:

87 (i) not required to obtain or display an off-highway vehicle license plate; and

88 (ii) required to obtain and display an off-highway vehicle registration sticker.

89 (5) (a) Except as provided by Subsection (5)(c), an applicant for a registration card and
90 registration [~~sticker~~] decal shall provide the Motor Vehicle Division a certificate, described
91 under Subsection (5)(b), from the county assessor of the county in which the off-highway
92 vehicle has situs for taxation.

93 (b) The certificate required under Subsection (5)(a) shall state one of the following:

94 (i) the property tax on the off-highway vehicle for the current year has been paid;

95 (ii) in the county assessor's opinion, the tax is a lien on real property sufficient to
96 secure the payment of the tax; or

97 (iii) the off-highway vehicle is exempt by law from payment of property tax for the
98 current year.

99 (c) An off-highway vehicle for which an off-highway implement of husbandry sticker
100 has been issued in accordance with Section 41-22-5.5 is:

101 (i) exempt from the requirement under this Subsection (5)[-];

102 (ii) not required to obtain or purchase an off-highway vehicle license plate; and

103 (iii) required to obtain and display an off-highway vehicle registration sticker.

104 (6) (a) All records of the division made or kept under this section shall be classified by
105 the Motor Vehicle Division in the same manner as motor vehicle records are classified under
106 Section 41-1a-116.

107 (b) Division records are available for inspection in the same manner as motor vehicle
108 records under Section 41-1a-116.

109 (7) A violation of this section is an infraction.

110 Section 2. Section 41-22-5.1 is amended to read:

111 **41-22-5.1. Rules of division relating to display of registration stickers.**

112 In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the
113 division, after consultation with the commission, shall make rules for the display of [a

114 ~~registration sticker]~~ an off-highway license plate and registration decal on an off-highway
115 vehicle in accordance with Section 41-22-3.

116 Section 3. Section 41-22-12.2 is amended to read:

117 **41-22-12.2. Unlawful cross-country motor vehicle travel on public land.**

118 (1) A person may not operate and an owner of a motor vehicle may not give another
119 person permission to operate a motor vehicle cross-country on any public land not designated
120 for that use by the controlling agency.

121 (2) A person who violates this section is guilty of an infraction.

122 (3) (a) (i) As part of any sentence for a conviction of a violation of this section, the
123 court[-] shall order the person to perform community service in the form of repairing any
124 damage to the public land caused by the unlawful cross-country motor vehicle travel, with a
125 minimum sentence calculated as described in Subsection (3)(b).

126 (ii) The court shall order the community service described in Subsection (3)(a)(i) to
127 occur at the location or locations where the person caused damage to the public land.

128 (b) For the community service required in Subsection (3)(a), the court shall:

129 (i) determine the approximate value of the damage caused by the unlawful
130 cross-country motor vehicle travel; and

131 (ii) calculate the number of hours of community service required to cover the cost of
132 the damage caused by dividing the approximate value determined pursuant to Subsection
133 (3)(b)(i) by a rate of \$25 per hour.

134 ~~[(a) may impose a fine not to exceed \$150; and]~~

135 ~~[(b) may require the person to perform community service in the form of repairing any~~
136 ~~damage to the public land caused by the unlawful cross-country motor vehicle travel.]~~

137 Section 4. Section 41-22-12.5 is amended to read:

138 **41-22-12.5. Restrictions on use of privately-owned lands without permission --**
139 **Unlawful for person to tamper with signs or fencing on privately-owned land.**

140 (1) (a) A person may not operate or accompany a person operating a motor vehicle on
141 privately-owned land of any other person, firm, or corporation without permission from the

142 owner or person in charge.

143 (b) A person operating or accompanying a person operating a motor vehicle may not
144 refuse to immediately leave private land upon request of the owner or person in charge of the
145 land.

146 (c) Subsections (1)(a) and (b) do not apply to prescriptive easements on privately
147 owned land.

148 (d) A person who violates Subsection (1)(a) is guilty of an infraction.

149 (e) A person who violates Subsection (1)(b) is guilty of a class C misdemeanor.

150 ~~[(f) As part of any sentence for a conviction of a violation of Subsection (1)(a) or (b);~~
151 ~~the court may:]~~

152 ~~[(i) impose a fine of not more than \$150;]~~

153 ~~[(ii) require the person to pay restitution not to exceed \$500 for any damage caused by~~
154 ~~the unlawful motor vehicle travel; and]~~

155 ~~[(iii) require the person to perform community service in the form of repairing any~~
156 ~~damage caused by the unlawful motor vehicle travel.]~~

157 (f) (i) As part of any sentence for a conviction of a violation of this Subsection (1), the
158 court shall order the person to perform community service in the form of repairing any damage
159 to the land or infrastructure caused by the unlawful motor vehicle travel, with a minimum
160 sentence calculated as described in Subsection (1)(f)(iii).

161 (ii) The court shall order the community service described in Subsection (1)(f)(i) to
162 occur at the location or locations where the person caused damage to the private land or
163 infrastructure.

164 (iii) For the community service required in Subsection (1)(f)(i), the court shall:

165 (A) determine the approximate value of the damage caused by the unlawful
166 cross-country motor vehicle travel; and

167 (B) calculate the number of hours of community service required to cover the cost of
168 the damage caused by dividing the approximate value determined pursuant to Subsection
169 (1)(f)(iii)(A) by a rate of \$25 per hour.

170 (2) A person operating or accompanying a person operating a motor vehicle may not
171 obstruct an entrance or exit to private property without the owner's permission.

172 (3) A person may not:

173 (a) tear down, mutilate, or destroy any sign, signboards, or other notice which regulates
174 trespassing for purposes of operating a motor vehicle on land; or

175 (b) tear down, deface, or destroy any fence or other enclosure or any gate or bars
176 belonging to the fence or enclosure.

177 (4) (a) A violation of Subsection (2) is an infraction.

178 (b) A violation of Subsection (3) is a class C misdemeanor.

179 (5) (a) (i) As part of any sentence for a conviction of a violation of Subsection (2) or
180 (3), the court shall order the person to perform community service in the form of repairing any
181 damage to the land or infrastructure caused by the unlawful motor vehicle travel, with a
182 minimum sentence calculated as described in Subsection (5)(b).

183 (ii) The court shall order the community service described in Subsection (5)(a)(i) to
184 occur at the location or locations where the person caused damage to the land or infrastructure.

185 (b) For the community service required in Subsection (5)(a), the court shall:

186 (i) determine the approximate value of the damage caused by the unlawful
187 cross-country motor vehicle travel; and

188 (ii) calculate the number of hours of community service required to cover the cost of
189 the damage caused by dividing the approximate value determined pursuant to Subsection
190 (5)(b)(i) by a rate of \$25 per hour.

191 Section 5. Section **41-22-19** is amended to read:

192 **41-22-19. Deposit of fees and related money into Off-highway Vehicle Account --**
193 **Use for facilities, costs and expenses of division, and education -- Request for matching**
194 **funds.**

195 (1) (a) Except as provided under Subsections (3) and (4) and Sections **41-22-34** and
196 **41-22-36**, all registration fees and related money collected by the Motor Vehicle Division or
197 any agencies designated to act for the Motor Vehicle Division under this chapter shall be

198 deposited as restricted revenue ~~[m]~~ into the Off-highway Vehicle Account in the General Fund
199 less the costs ~~[of]~~ incurred by the Motor Vehicle Division for collecting off-highway vehicle
200 registration fees ~~[by the Motor Vehicle Division]~~ or issuing an off-highway vehicle license
201 plate.

202 (b) The balance of the money may be used by the division as follows:

203 ~~[(a)]~~ (i) for the construction, improvement, operation, or maintenance of publicly
204 owned or administered off-highway vehicle facilities;

205 ~~[(b)]~~ (ii) for the mitigation of impacts associated with off-highway vehicle use;

206 ~~[(c)]~~ (iii) as grants or as matching funds with any federal agency, state agency, political
207 subdivision of the state, or organized user group for the construction, improvement, operation,
208 acquisition, or maintenance of publicly owned or administered off-highway vehicle facilities
209 including public access facilities;

210 ~~[(d)]~~ (iv) for the administration and enforcement of the provisions of this chapter; and

211 ~~[(e)]~~ (v) for the education of off-highway vehicle users.

212 (2) All agencies or political subdivisions requesting matching funds shall submit plans
213 for proposed off-highway vehicle facilities to the division for review and approval.

214 (3) (a) One dollar and 50 cents of each annual registration fee collected under
215 Subsection 41-22-8(1) and each off-highway vehicle user fee collected under Subsection
216 41-22-35(2) shall be deposited ~~[m]~~ into the Land Grant Management Fund created under
217 Section 53C-3-101.

218 (b) The Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration shall use the money
219 deposited under Subsection (3)(a) for costs associated with off-highway vehicle use of legally
220 accessible lands within its jurisdiction as follows:

221 (i) to improve recreational opportunities on trust lands by constructing, improving,
222 maintaining, or perfecting access for off-highway vehicle trails; and

223 (ii) to mitigate impacts associated with off-highway vehicle use.

224 (c) Any unused balance of the money deposited under Subsection (3)(a) exceeding
225 \$350,000 at the end of each fiscal year shall be deposited in the Off-highway Vehicle Account

226 under Subsection (1).

227 (4) One dollar of each off-highway vehicle registration fee collected under Subsection
228 41-22-8(1) shall be deposited [in] into the Utah Highway Patrol Aero Bureau Restricted
229 Account created in Section 53-8-303.

230 Section 6. Section 41-22-30 is amended to read:

231 **41-22-30. Supervision, safety certificate, or driver license required -- Penalty.**

232 (1) As used in this section, "direct supervision" means oversight at a distance:

233 (a) of no more than 300 feet; and

234 (b) within which:

235 (i) visual contact is maintained; and

236 (ii) advice and assistance can be given and received.

237 (2) A person may not operate and an owner may not give that person permission to
238 operate an off-highway vehicle on any public land, trail, street, or highway of this state unless
239 the person:

240 (a) is able to reach and operate each control necessary to safely operate the off-highway
241 vehicle;

242 (b) (i) is under the direct supervision of an off-highway vehicle safety instructor during
243 a scheduled safety training course approved by the division in accordance with Section
244 41-22-32; or

245 (ii) possesses a safety certificate issued or approved by the division in accordance with
246 Section 41-22-31; [~~or~~] and

247 [~~(iii) possesses a valid license to operate a motor vehicle issued in accordance with~~
248 ~~Title 53, Chapter 3, Uniform Driver License Act; and]~~

249 (c) is under the direct supervision of a person who is at least 18 years old if the person
250 operating the off-highway vehicle:

251 (i) is under 18 years old;

252 (ii) does not possess a valid license to operate a motor vehicle issued in accordance
253 with Title 53, Chapter 3, Uniform Driver License Act; and

254 (iii) is operating the off-highway vehicle on a public highway that is:

255 (A) open to motor vehicles; and

256 (B) not exclusively reserved for off-highway vehicle use.

257 (3) (a) A person convicted of a violation of this section is guilty of an infraction and
258 shall be fined not more than \$100 per offense.

259 (b) It is a defense to a charge under this section, if the person charged:

260 (i) produces in court a license or safety certificate described in Subsection (2)(b) that
261 was:

262 (A) valid at the time of the citation or arrest; and

263 (B) issued to the person operating the off-highway vehicle; and

264 (ii) can show that the direct supervision requirement under Subsection (2)(b) was not
265 violated at the time of citation or arrest.

266 (4) The requirements of this section do not apply to an operator of an off-highway
267 implement of husbandry.

268 (5) Nothing in this section allows an individual without a valid driver license issued in
269 accordance with Title 53, Chapter 3, Uniform Driver License Act, to operate a street-legal
270 all-terrain vehicle on a roadway.

271 Section 7. Section **41-22-31** is amended to read:

272 **41-22-31. Division to set standards for safety program -- Safety certificates issued**
273 **-- Cooperation with public and private entities -- State immunity from suit.**

274 (1) (a) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act,
275 the division shall make rules, after consultation with the commission, that establish curriculum
276 standards for a comprehensive off-highway vehicle safety education and training program and
277 shall implement this program.

278 (b) The program shall be designed to develop and instill the knowledge, attitudes,
279 habits, and skills necessary for the safe operation of an off-highway vehicle.

280 (c) (i) The program shall include:

281 (A) an operational skills instruction and examination component required for every

282 operator under 18 years old that does not possess a valid license to operate a motor vehicle
283 issued in accordance with Title 53, Chapter 3, Uniform Driver License Act; and

284 (B) a written knowledge instruction and examination component required for every
285 operator.

286 (ii) An individual with valid license to operate a motor vehicle issued in accordance
287 with Title 53, Chapter 3, Uniform Driver License Act, is not required to complete the
288 operational skills instruction and examination component of the course.

289 ~~[(e)]~~ (d) Components of the program shall include:

290 (i) the preparation and dissemination of off-highway vehicle information and safety
291 advice to the public and the training of off-highway vehicle operators~~[-]~~;

292 (ii) education concerning the importance of gates and fences used in agriculture and
293 how to properly close a gate; and

294 (iii) education concerning respectful, sustainable, and on-trail off-highway vehicle
295 operation, and respect for communities affected by off-highway vehicle operation.

296 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) Off-highway vehicle safety certificates shall be issued to those who
297 successfully complete training or pass the knowledge and skills test established under the
298 program.

299 (f) The division shall ensure that an individual may complete the written component of
300 the program online.

301 (2) (a) Subject to Subsection 41-22-35(1), an individual may not operate an
302 off-highway vehicle on public lands in this state unless the individual has completed the
303 off-highway vehicle safety education and training program described in Subsection (1).

304 (b) (i) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(d), an individual under 18 years old may
305 not operate an off-highway vehicle in the state unless the individual has completed both the
306 skills component and the written component of the off-highway vehicle safety education and
307 training program described in Subsection (1).

308 (ii) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(d), an individual 18 years old or older may
309 not operate an off-highway vehicle in the state unless the individual has completed the written

310 component of the off-highway vehicle safety education and training program described in
311 Subsection (1).

312 (c) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(d), a person may not rent an off-highway
313 vehicle to an individual until the individual that will operate the off-highway vehicle has
314 completed the off-highway vehicle safety education and training program described in
315 Subsection (1).

316 (d) (i) Subsections (2)(a) through (c) do not apply to:

317 (A) a snowmobile or an off-highway implement of husbandry; or

318 (B) an individual operating an off-highway vehicle as part of a guided tour or a
319 sanctioned off-highway vehicle event.

320 (ii) (A) The division shall ensure that the online written knowledge component of the
321 program is available beginning on January 1, 2023.

322 (B) The requirement to complete the online written knowledge component of the
323 program as described in this section and relevant enforcement begins on February 1, 2023.

324 ~~[(2)]~~ (3) The division shall cooperate with appropriate private organizations and
325 associations, private and public corporations, and local government units to implement the
326 program established under this section.

327 ~~[(3)]~~ (4) In addition to the governmental immunity granted in Title 63G, Chapter 7,
328 Governmental Immunity Act of Utah, the state is immune from suit for any act, or failure to
329 act, in any capacity relating to the off-highway vehicle safety education and training program.
330 The state is also not responsible for any insufficiency or inadequacy in the quality of training
331 provided by this program.

332 (5) A person convicted of a violation of this section is guilty of an infraction and shall
333 be fined not more than \$150 per offense.

334 Section 8. Section **41-22-35** is amended to read:

335 **41-22-35. Off-highway vehicle user fee -- Decal -- Agents -- Penalty for fraudulent**
336 **issuance of decal -- Deposit and use of fee revenue.**

337 (1) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), any person owning or operating a

338 nonresident off-highway vehicle who operates or gives another person permission to operate
339 the nonresident off-highway vehicle on any public land, trail, street, or highway in this state
340 shall:

341 (i) apply for an off-highway vehicle decal issued exclusively for an off-highway
342 vehicle owned by a nonresident of the state;

343 (ii) pay an annual off-highway vehicle user fee; [~~and~~]

344 (iii) provide evidence that the owner is a nonresident[-]; and

345 (iv) provide evidence of completion of the safety course and program described in
346 Section 41-22-35.

347 (b) The provisions of Subsection (1)(a) do not apply to an off-highway vehicle if the
348 off-highway vehicle is:

349 (i) used exclusively as an off-highway implement of husbandry;

350 (ii) used exclusively for the purposes of a scheduled competitive event sponsored by a
351 public or private entity or another event sponsored by a governmental entity under rules made
352 by the division, after consultation with the commission;

353 (iii) owned and operated by a state government agency and the operation of the
354 off-highway vehicle within the boundaries of the state is within the course and scope of the
355 duties of the agency; [~~or~~]

356 (iv) used exclusively for the purpose of an off-highway vehicle manufacturer
357 sponsored event within the state under rules made by the division[-]; or

358 (v) operated as part of a sanctioned off-highway vehicle event or part of an official tour
359 by a person licensed as a off-highway vehicle tour guide in this state.

360 (2) The off-highway vehicle user fee is \$30.

361 (3) Upon compliance with the provisions of Subsection (1)(a), the nonresident shall:

362 (a) receive a nonresident off-highway vehicle user decal indicating compliance with the
363 provisions of Subsection (1)(a); and

364 (b) display the decal on the off-highway vehicle in accordance with rules made by the
365 division.

366 (4) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the
367 division, after consultation with the commission, shall make rules establishing:

368 (a) procedures for:

369 (i) the payment of off-highway vehicle user fees; and

370 (ii) the display of a decal on an off-highway vehicle as required under Subsection

371 (3)(b);

372 (b) acceptable evidence indicating compliance with Subsection (1);

373 (c) eligibility for scheduled competitive events or other events under Subsection

374 (1)(b)(ii); and

375 (d) eligibility for an off-highway vehicle manufacturer sponsored event under

376 Subsection (1)(b)(iv).

377 (5) (a) An off-highway vehicle user decal may be issued and the off-highway vehicle
378 user fee may be collected by the division or agents of the division.

379 (b) An agent shall retain 10% of all off-highway vehicle user fees collected.

380 (c) The division may require agents to obtain a bond in a reasonable amount.

381 (d) On or before the tenth day of each month, each agent shall:

382 (i) report all sales to the division; and

383 (ii) submit all off-highway vehicle user fees collected less the remuneration provided in
384 Subsection (5)(b).

385 (e) (i) If an agent fails to pay the amount due, the division may assess a penalty of 20%
386 of the amount due.

387 (ii) Delinquent payments shall bear interest at the rate of 1% per month.

388 (iii) If the amount due is not paid because of bad faith or fraud, the division shall assess
389 a penalty of 100% of the total amount due together with interest.

390 (f) All fees collected by an agent, except the remuneration provided in Subsection

391 (5)(b), shall:

392 (i) be kept separate and apart from the private funds of the agent; and

393 (ii) belong to the state.

394 (g) An agent may not issue an off-highway vehicle user decal to any person unless the
395 person furnishes evidence of compliance with the provisions of Subsection (1)(a).

396 (h) A violation of any provision of this Subsection (5) is a class B misdemeanor and
397 may be cause for revocation of the agent authorization.

398 (6) Revenue generated by off-highway vehicle user fees shall be deposited [~~in~~] into the
399 Off-highway Vehicle Account created in Section [41-22-19](#).

400 Section 9. **Effective date.**

401 This bill takes effect on January 1, 2023.