

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. House Bill 2151

PRINTER'S NO. 3333

AMOUNT

\$400,000 – Revenue FY 2012-13

FUND

Snowmobile/ATV Restricted Account –
General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

January 23, 2012

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Gabler

HISTORY OF BILL

Referred to TOURISM AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, Jan. 23, 2012

Reported as committed, Jan. 24, 2012

First consideration, Jan. 24, 2012

Laid on the table, Jan. 24, 2012

Removed from table, Jan. 25, 2012

Second consideration, with amendments, Feb. 6, 2012

Re-committed to APPROPRIATIONS, Feb. 6, 2012

(Remarks see House Journal Page 123), Feb. 6, 2012

Re-reported as committed, Feb. 7, 2012

Third consideration and final passage, Feb. 7, 2012 (194-0)

(Remarks see House Journal Page), Feb. 7, 2012

In the Senate

Referred to ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, March 2, 2012

Reported as amended, April 2, 2012

First consideration, April 2, 2012

Re-referred to APPROPRIATIONS, April 30, 2012

Re-reported as committed, May 22, 2012

Second consideration, May 23, 2012

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

House Bill 2151 amends Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes by providing for vintage snowmobile permits.

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The bill authorizes the DCNR to issue permits to owners of vintage snowmobiles. Vintage snowmobiles are defined as those which are at least 25 years old and are not operated in this Commonwealth except at vintage snowmobile events. Such events are defined in the bill to be organized rides for owners and operators of permitted vintage snowmobiles. The events must be open to the public and publicized as such. The events must take place on a specific date or dates, with specified start and end times, and on a designated trail with specified beginning and ending points.

The bill requires owners and operators who are interested in participating in such events to complete and submit an application form and pay for a one-time \$20 fee for a vintage snowmobile permit to DCNR. The permit must then be provided by the owner or operator on demand to a police officer or authorized department employee. It is valid only to the person to whom it is issued and is not transferrable. The DCNR may suspend or revoke a vintage snowmobile permit upon conviction of the permit holder of an offense under the provisions of this program.

The department is responsible for maintaining records of the permit number issued for each vintage snowmobile, as well as the owner's name and address.

The bill also amends the language related to the provision of the snowmobile and ATV safety program to require the DCNR to provide instruction to anyone who wishes to receive such training.

This Act will take effect in 120 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There are approximately 48,000 vintage era snowmobiles in Pennsylvania. If about 20,000 of these are assumed to apply for the one-time permit so they may enter vintage snowmobile events, approximately \$400,000 revenue will be generated by the \$20 fee and deposited in the restricted revenue account for the snowmobile/ATV program. Additional revenue may be generated from the \$20 permit fee should non-resident-owned vintage snowmobiles be permitted for events in Pennsylvania.

Because this is a one-time fee, it is possible that at some point in the future, any additional costs incurred by the Department for the ongoing administration and enforcement of the vintage snowmobile permit program may not be fully covered by the original revenue the fee generates. If this occurs at some point in the future, DCNR would need to rely on existing revenue deposited in the restricted account for continued operation of the program.