
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 880 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY SMITH, MOUL, HAMM, ROZZI, ROWE, ZIMMERMAN, TOPPER,
GREGORY, JOZWIAK, ARMANINI AND MARSHALL, APRIL 10, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, APRIL 10, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in general provisions, further providing for
3 definitions; in financial responsibility, providing for
4 utility terrain vehicles; in special vehicles and
5 pedestrians, providing for operation of utility terrain
6 vehicles; in miscellaneous provisions, further providing for
7 off-road vehicles in urban municipalities; and imposing
8 penalties.

9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
10 hereby enacts as follows:

11 Section 1. Section 102 of Title 75 of the Pennsylvania
12 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a definition to read:

13 § 102. Definitions.

14 Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent
15 provisions of this title which are applicable to specific
16 provisions of this title, the following words and phrases when
17 used in this title shall have, unless the context clearly
18 indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this section:

19 * * *

20 "Utility terrain vehicle" or "UTV." A motorized off-highway
21 vehicle equipped with four or more tires, bucket seats or bench

1 seats, not including a saddle, that has:

2 (1) a maximum width of 64 inches and a maximum dry
3 weight of 1,700 pounds;

4 (2) a width that exceeds 64 inches or a dry weight that
5 exceeds 1,700 pounds.

6 The term does not include an ATV, snowmobile, trail bike,
7 motorboat, golf cart, aircraft, dune buggy, automobile,
8 construction machine, truck or home utility machine; military,
9 fire, emergency and law enforcement vehicle; implement of
10 husbandry; multipurpose agricultural vehicle; vehicle used by
11 the department; a vehicle that is or is required to be
12 registered under Chapter 13 (relating to registration of
13 vehicles); or off-road motor vehicle used exclusively as a
14 utility vehicle for an agricultural or business operation and
15 incidentally operated or moved upon the highway.

16 * * *

17 Section 2. Title 75 is amended by adding a section to read:
18 § 1789. Utility terrain vehicles.

19 (a) Minimum coverage requirements.--A utility terrain
20 vehicle that is registered or operated on a highway shall be
21 covered by the financial responsibility required under
22 Subchapter A (relating to general provisions).

23 (b) Exemption from other coverages.--For a utility terrain
24 vehicle, a person may not be required to purchase and an insurer
25 may not be required to offer or make available any other
26 coverage contained in this chapter.

27 Section 3. Chapter 35 of Title 75 is amended by adding a
28 subchapter to read:

29 SUBCHAPTER G

30 OPERATION OF UTILITY TERRAIN VEHICLES

1 Sec.

2 3597. Scope of subchapter.

3 3597.1. Required equipment.

4 3597.2. Display of registration plate.

5 3597.3. Operation on certain highways or roadways.

6 3597.4. Same treatment as passenger cars.

7 3597.5. Seating limitation.

8 § 3597. Scope of subchapter.

9 This subchapter applies to the operation of utility terrain
10 vehicles on certain highways or roadways in this Commonwealth.

11 § 3597.1. Required equipment.

12 (a) General rule.--A utility terrain vehicle operated upon a
13 highway or roadway in this Commonwealth shall be maintained in
14 proper condition, comply with the equipment requirements and
15 standards specified in 49 CFR 571.500 (relating to Standard No.
16 500; Low-speed vehicles) and be equipped with the following
17 additional equipment:

18 (1) Brakes adequate to control the movement of and to
19 stop the vehicle.

20 (2) An odometer.

21 (3) A speedometer.

22 (4) The original manufacturer's vehicle identification
23 number die stamped upon the body or frame, or both, of the
24 vehicle or the original manufacturer's vehicle identification
25 number die stamped upon the engine or motor of the vehicle.

26 (5) A horn.

27 (6) Headlights.

28 (7) Taillights.

29 (8) Turn signals.

30 (9) Rearview mirrors.

1 (10) A windshield with a windshield wiper, unless the
2 operator and any passenger wear eye protection.

3 (11) A tail lamp or other lamp constructed and placed to
4 illuminate the registration plate.

5 (b) Exemptions.--

6 (1) A utility terrain vehicle shall be exempt from
7 equipment requirements not enumerated in this subchapter.

8 (2) A utility terrain vehicle registered outside of this
9 Commonwealth shall not be found in violation of this
10 subchapter, provided the UTV is in full compliance with this
11 subchapter and subsection (a).

12 (3) A utility terrain vehicle shall not be subject to
13 emissions or safety inspections.

14 (4) A utility terrain vehicle shall be exempt from the
15 requirements of this subchapter if being operated in
16 accordance with sections 7722 (relating to designation of
17 snowmobile and ATV roads) and 7723 (relating to special
18 snowmobile and ATV events).

19 (c) Penalties.--An individual who operates a utility terrain
20 vehicle without the equipment prescribed in subsection (a) shall
21 be subject to the penalties under section 6502 (relating to
22 summary offenses).

23 § 3597.2. Display of registration plate.

24 (a) General rule.--A registration plate for a utility
25 terrain vehicle shall, at all times, be securely fastened to the
26 UTV to which it is assigned or on which the UTV's use is
27 authorized in accordance with regulations promulgated by the
28 department.

29 (b) UTV registration plate.--The department shall produce a
30 registration plate for a UTV that displays the identifying

1 characters on the plate. The department shall issue the plate
2 upon application and payment of the fee in subsection (c).

3 (c) Fees.--The department shall collect an annual
4 registration fee of \$30 which fee shall be distributed as
5 follows:

6 (1) Ten dollars to the Motor License Fund.

7 (2) Ten dollars to the ATV Management Restricted
8 Account.

9 (3) Ten dollars to the municipality of which the
10 registrant resides.

11 § 3597.3. Operation on certain highways or roadways.

12 (a) Operation on State highways.--

13 (1) Except as otherwise provided under paragraph (2), a
14 utility terrain vehicle may not be operated upon a highway or
15 roadway under the jurisdiction of the department with a
16 posted speed in excess of 55 miles per hour.

17 (2) The secretary may, by order, permit the use of a
18 utility terrain vehicle upon a highway or roadway under the
19 jurisdiction of the department where the posted speed limit
20 is greater than 55 miles per hour but not greater than 65
21 miles per hour.

22 (3) An order issued by the secretary under paragraph (2)
23 shall be transmitted to the Legislative Reference Bureau for
24 publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

25 (4) Except as otherwise provided under paragraph (2), a
26 utility terrain vehicle may not be operated upon a limited
27 access highway or divided highway.

28 (b) Operation on local roadways.--

29 (1) Except as otherwise provided under paragraph (2) or
30 (3), a utility terrain vehicle may not be operated upon a

1 highway or roadway under the jurisdiction of a local
2 authority with a posted speed limit in excess of 45 miles per
3 hour.

4 (2) A local authority may, by ordinance or resolution,
5 as appropriate, in the case of any roadway under the local
6 authority's jurisdiction, permit the use of a utility terrain
7 vehicle where the posted speed limit is greater than 45 miles
8 per hour but not greater than 55 miles per hour.

9 (3) A local authority may, by ordinance or resolution,
10 as appropriate, prohibit the use of a utility terrain vehicle
11 on a roadway under the local authority's jurisdiction where
12 the local authority determines that the operation of a
13 utility terrain vehicle would constitute a hazard.

14 (c) Violation.--A person who operates a utility terrain
15 vehicle upon a highway or roadway in violation of this section
16 shall be subject to the penalties under section 6502 (relating
17 to summary offenses).

18 § 3597.4. Same treatment as passenger cars.

19 Except as otherwise provided in this subchapter, a utility
20 terrain vehicle shall be considered a passenger car for the
21 purposes of Part II (relating to title, registration and
22 licensing) and section 4581 (relating to restraint systems).

23 § 3597.5. Seating limitation.

24 A utility terrain vehicle may not be operated:

25 (1) at a time during which the number of passengers
26 exceeds the number of available safety belts in the UTV; or

27 (2) on a highway with a speed limit in excess of 45
28 miles per hour, if a passenger requires a child passenger
29 restraint system or booster seat.

30 Section 4. Section 3722(a) of Title 75, added July 11, 2022

1 (P.L.1596, No.92), is amended to read:

2 § 3722. Off-road vehicles in urban municipalities.

3 (a) Prohibition.--Except as provided in Subchapter G of
4 Chapter 35 (relating to operation of utility terrain vehicles),

5 Subchapter C of Chapter 77 (relating to operation), subsection

6 (b) or otherwise provided by this title or other law of this

7 Commonwealth, including local ordinances adopted by urban

8 municipalities, no individual may operate an all-terrain vehicle

9 or a dirt bike on any of the following public areas within the

10 boundaries of an urban municipality:

11 (1) A highway, including the berm or shoulder.

12 (2) A sidewalk.

13 (3) A pedalcycle lane.

14 * * *

15 Section 5. This act shall take effect in 60 days.