

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2015

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HOUSE BILL 102

Short Title: Utility Vehicles/Law Enforcement. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Davis (Primary Sponsor).

For a complete list of Sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly Web Site.

Referred to: Transportation.

February 27, 2015

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, EMERGENCY
3 PERSONNEL, AND CERTAIN MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY EMPLOYEES TO
4 OPERATE UTILITY VEHICLES ON SOME PUBLIC HIGHWAYS.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 SECTION 1. G.S. 20-171.23 reads as rewritten:

7 "§ 20-171.23. Motorized ~~all-terrain~~all terrain vehicles of law enforcement officers and
8 fire, rescue, and emergency medical services permitted on certain highways.

9 (a) Law enforcement officers acting in the course and scope of their duties may operate
10 motorized ~~all-terrain~~ vehicles, as defined in G.S. 14-159.3(b)all terrain vehicles and owned or
11 leased by the agency, or under the direct control of the incident commander, on: (i) public
12 highways where the speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less; and (ii) nonfully controlled access
13 highways with higher speeds for the purpose of traveling from a speed zone to an adjacent
14 speed zone where the speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less.

15 (b) Fire, rescue, and emergency medical services personnel acting in the course and
16 scope of their duties may operate motorized ~~all-terrain~~ vehicles, as defined in
17 G.S. 14-159.3(b)all terrain vehicles and owned or leased by fire, rescue, or emergency medical
18 services departments, or under the direct control of the incident commander, on: (i) public
19 highways where the speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less; and (ii) nonfully controlled access
20 highways with higher speeds for the purpose of traveling from a speed zone to an adjacent
21 speed zone where the speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less.

22 (c) This Part and all other State laws governing the operation of ~~all-terrain~~all terrain
23 vehicles apply to the operation of all-terrain vehicles authorized by this section.

24 (d) An ~~all-terrain~~all terrain vehicle operated pursuant to this section shall be equipped
25 with operable front and rear lights and a horn.

26 (e) A person operating an ~~all-terrain~~all terrain vehicle pursuant to this section shall
27 observe posted speed limits and shall not exceed the manufacturer's recommended speed for the
28 vehicle.

29 (f) A person operating an ~~all-terrain~~all terrain vehicle pursuant to this section shall
30 carry an official identification card or badge.

31 (g) For purposes of this section, the term "motorized all terrain vehicle" has the same
32 meaning as in G.S. 14-159.3, except that the term also includes utility vehicles, as defined in
33 this Chapter."

34 SECTION 2. G.S. 20-171.24 reads as rewritten:



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1 "§ 20-171.24. Motorized ~~all-terrain~~all terrain vehicle use by employees of listed
2 municipalities and counties permitted on certain highways.

3 (a) Municipal and county employees may operate motorized ~~all-terrain vehicles, as~~
4 ~~defined in G.S. 14-159.3(b)~~all terrain vehicles and owned or leased by the agency, on: (i)
5 public highways where the speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less; and (ii) nonfully controlled
6 access highways with higher speeds for the purpose of traveling from a speed zone to an
7 adjacent speed zone where the speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less.

8 (b) This Part and all other State laws governing the operation of ~~all-terrain~~all terrain
9 vehicles apply to the operation of ~~all-terrain~~all terrain vehicles authorized by this section.

10 (c) An ~~all-terrain~~all terrain vehicle operated pursuant to this section shall be equipped
11 with operable front and rear lights and a horn.

12 (d) A person operating an ~~all-terrain~~all terrain vehicle pursuant to this section shall
13 observe posted speed limits and shall not exceed the manufacturer's recommended speed for the
14 vehicle.

15 (e) A person operating an ~~all-terrain~~all terrain vehicle pursuant to this section shall
16 carry an official identification card or badge.

17 (e1) For purposes of this section, the term "motorized all terrain vehicle" has the same
18 meaning as in G.S. 14-159.3, except that the term also includes utility vehicles, as defined in
19 this Chapter.

20 (f) This section applies to the Towns of Ansonville, Atlantic Beach, Burgaw, Carolina
21 Beach, Cramerton, Dallas, Davidson, Duck, Emerald Isle, Franklin, Indian Beach, Kill Devil
22 Hills, Kitty Hawk, Kure Beach, Lowell, Manteo, Murphy, Nags Head, North Topsail Beach,
23 Oakboro, Ocean Isle Beach, Pine Knoll Shores, Stanley, Surf City, Sylva, Topsail Beach,
24 Williamston, Wrightsville Beach, and Yanceyville, the Cities of Albemarle, Belmont,
25 Cherryville, Gastonia, Hamlet, Kings Mountain, Mount Holly, and Rockingham and the
26 Counties of Cleveland, Currituck, Gaston, Surry, ~~and Wilkes~~Wilkes, and Wilmington only."

27 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.