

**SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 1329**

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled  
"Natural resources and environmental protection act,"  
by amending section 82119 (MCL 324.82119), as added by 1995 PA  
58.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1       Sec. 82119. A person shall not operate a snowmobile upon a  
2 public highway, land used as an airport or street, or on a public  
3 or private parking lot not specifically designated for the use of  
4 snowmobiles except under the following conditions and  
5 circumstances:  
6       (a) A snowmobile may be operated on the right-of-way of a  
7 public highway, except a limited access highway, if it is  
8 operated at the extreme right of the open portion of the  
9 right-of-way and with the flow of traffic on the highway.  
10 However, a snowmobile may be operated on the right-of-way of a

1 public highway against the flow of traffic if the right-of-way is  
2 a snowmobile trail designated by the department in the plan  
3 developed pursuant to section 82106(2) and is approved by the  
4 state transportation department and the department. Snowmobiles  
5 operated on the right-of-way of a public highway, as provided in  
6 this subdivision, shall travel single file and shall not be  
7 operated abreast except when overtaking and passing another  
8 snowmobile. In the absence of a posted snowmobile speed limit, a  
9 snowmobile operated on the right-of-way of a public highway, as  
10 provided in this subdivision, shall be limited to the speed limit  
11 posted on the public highway.

12       **(b) A snowmobile may be operated on the right-of-way of a**  
13 **public highway that is a limited access highway if the**  
14 **right-of-way is a snowmobile trail designated by the department**  
15 **in the plan developed pursuant to section 82106(2) and is**  
16 **approved by the state transportation department and the**  
17 **department. A snowmobile shall only be operated on that**  
18 **right-of-way in the manner provided in that plan and within the**  
19 **width of the designated trail.**

20       **(c) ~~-(b)-~~** A snowmobile may be operated on the roadway or  
21 shoulder when necessary to cross a bridge or culvert if the  
22 snowmobile is brought to a complete stop before entering onto the  
23 roadway or shoulder and the driver yields the right-of-way to an  
24 approaching vehicle on the highway.

25       **(d) ~~-(e)-~~** In a court action in this state where competent  
26 evidence demonstrates that a vehicle that is permitted to be  
27 operated on a highway pursuant to the Michigan vehicle code, ~~-Act~~

1 ~~No. 300 of the Public Acts of 1949, being sections 257.1 to~~  
2 ~~257.923 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, is in a collision~~ 1949 PA  
3 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923, collided with a snowmobile on a  
4 roadway, the driver of the snowmobile involved in the collision  
5 shall be considered prima facie negligent.

6 (e) ~~(d)~~ A snowmobile may be operated across a public  
7 highway other than a limited access highway, at right angles to  
8 the highway, for the purpose of getting from 1 area to another  
9 when the operation can be done in safety and another vehicle is  
10 not crossing the highway at the same time in the same general  
11 area. An operator shall bring his or her snowmobile to a  
12 complete stop before proceeding across the public highway and  
13 shall yield the right-of-way to all oncoming traffic.

14 (f) ~~(e)~~ Snowmobiles may be operated on a highway in a  
15 county road system that is not normally snowplowed for vehicular  
16 traffic and on the plowed right-of-way or shoulder when no  
17 right-of-way exists on a snowplowed highway in the county road  
18 system, outside the corporate limits of a city or village, that  
19 is designated and marked for snowmobile use by the county road  
20 commission having jurisdiction. Upon the request of a county  
21 road commission that has designated all county roads outside the  
22 corporate limits of a city or village for snowmobile use, the  
23 state transportation department shall erect at county road  
24 commission expense and shall maintain, in accordance with the  
25 Michigan manual of uniform traffic control devices standards, the  
26 basic snowmobile sign unit together with a supplemental panel  
27 stating "permitted on right-of-way or shoulder of all .....

1 (county name) roads -- ~~Act 74 of P.A. 1968~~ **MCL 324.82119**" at  
2 the county line on all state trunk line highways and county  
3 roads. **A sign erected before the effective date of the 2004**  
4 **amendatory act that amended this section may cite 1968 PA 74**  
5 **instead of citing this section.**

6 (g) ~~-(f)-~~ A ~~duly constituted~~ law enforcement officer of a  
7 local unit of government or the state may authorize use of a  
8 snowmobile on a public highway or street within his or her  
9 jurisdiction when an emergency occurs and conventional motor  
10 vehicles cannot be used for transportation due to snow or other  
11 extreme highway conditions.

12 (h) ~~-(g)-~~ A snowmobile may be operated on a highway or street  
13 for a special event of limited duration conducted according to a  
14 prearranged schedule only under permit from the governmental unit  
15 having jurisdiction. The event may be conducted on the frozen  
16 surface of public waters only under permit from the department.

17 (i) ~~-(h)-~~ A city or village by ordinance may designate 1 or  
18 more specific public highways or streets within its jurisdiction  
19 as egress and ingress routes for the use of snowmobiles. A city  
20 or village acting under the authority of this subdivision shall  
21 erect and maintain, in accordance with the Michigan manual of  
22 uniform traffic control devices standards, a sign unit giving  
23 proper notice of the designation.