

Legislative Analysis



ALLOW ORV USE ON STATE TRUNK LINE HIGHWAYS

Mary Ann Cleary, Director
Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 4284

Sponsor: Rep. Joel Johnson

Committee: Tourism

Complete to 4-24-16

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4284 AS INTRODUCED 2-19-13

The bill would allow authorized local units of government to adopt ordinances allowing for the operation of ORVs on the shoulders of state trunk line highways. It is an amendment to Part 811 (Off-Road Recreation Vehicles) of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act.

Currently, Part 811 allows the county board of commissioners of an eligible county, the township board of a township located within an eligible county, and the legislative body of a city or village located within an eligible county, to adopt an ordinance authorizing the use of ORVs on the maintained portion of one or more roads located within their respective jurisdictions. All county primary and local roads, or city major and local streets, are eligible for such a designation.

House Bill 4284 would allow any authorized local unit of government (county, city, village, or township) to adopt an ordinance allowing for the operation of ORVs on the shoulders of state trunk line highways located within their jurisdiction. To be eligible, a local unit of government would have to submit, and have granted, a request for authorization to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). MDOT would only be able to authorize an ordinance (1) where necessary to connect the shoulders of roads or other authorized routes that are permissible for ORV travel, or (2) to complement local ORV ordinances and transportation networks.

In making a determination, MDOT would have to consider ease of use and the current ORV ordinances of the county where the local unit of government is located. A determination would have to be issued within 60 days of receiving an authorization request. Under the bill, a county could submit an authorization request to MDOT on behalf of one or more townships, cities, or villages within the county.

FISCAL IMPACT:

A fiscal analysis is in process.

Legislative Analyst: Jeff Stoutenburg

Fiscal Analyst: William E. Hamilton

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.