

PLACEMENT OF TWO-WHEEL OFF-ROAD VEHICLE LICENSE STICKERS

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House Bill 4332 (H-1) as reported from committee

Sponsor: Rep. Steven Johnson

Committee: Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation

Complete to 6-15-21

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

(Enacted as Public Act 57 of 2022)

BRIEF SUMMARY: House Bill 4332 would amend Part 811 (Off-Road Recreation Vehicles) of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to allow the license for a two-wheel off-road vehicle (ORV) to be placed either centered on the exposed surface of the rear fender or located at a visible place on a front suspension fork.

FISCAL IMPACT: House Bill 4332 is unlikely to affect costs or revenues for the Department of Natural Resources or local units of government.

THE APPARENT PROBLEM:

As indicated by their name, two-wheel off-road vehicles are often driven off roads on rough terrain outdoors. Dirt and mud commonly cover the back of an ORV, which can hide the required license or, worse, cause it to fall off. According to committee testimony, the second scenario occurs more often. Because ORVs are often used in rough terrain, the license is then almost impossible to find to be reaffixed. Legislation has been proposed to allow the license to be affixed at the front of the ORV, where it is less likely to fall off due to dirt or mud.

THE CONTENT OF THE BILL:

Currently under the act and Department of Natural Resources rules, an ORV license for a two-wheel vehicle must be centered on the exposed surface of the rear fender.¹ (Below is an image provided by Offroad Ed indicating the current license placement requirement.²)

The bill would also allow the license to be located at a visible place facing forward on a front suspension fork.

MCL 324.81116

¹ https://ars.apps.lara.state.mi.us/AdminCode/DownloadAdminCodeFile?FileName=1189_2013-026NR_AdminCode.pdf&ReturnHTML=True

² https://www.offroad-ed.com/michigan/studyGuide/Display-of-License/401023_154824/.

Two-wheel vehicle: center the ORV sticker on the exposed rear fender.



ARGUMENTS:

For:

Supporters of the bills argue that many ORV licenses are lost due to the common and intended uses of the ORV, which leaves ORV operators and owners vulnerable to penalties associated with operating an ORV without a proper license. The bill would help these owners and operators stay within the regulations because a license on the front of an ORV is less likely to fall off.

Against:

No arguments opposing the bill were presented in House committee testimony.

POSITIONS:

Representatives of the following entities testified in support of the bill (5-6-21):

- Michigan Cycle Conservation Club
- Michigan ORV Workgroup

The Department of Natural Resources indicated no position on the bill. (5-6-21)

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