

HOUSE BILL No. 5510

February 1, 2018, Introduced by Rep. Roberts and referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled "Natural resources and environmental protection act," by amending section 81133 (MCL 324.81133), as amended by 2016 PA 288.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 81133. (1) An individual shall not operate an ORV:

2 (a) At a rate of speed greater than is reasonable and proper,
3 or in a careless manner, having due regard for conditions then
4 existing.

5 (b) During the hours of 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour
6 before sunrise without displaying a lighted headlight and lighted
7 taillight. The requirements of this subdivision are in addition to
8 any applicable requirements of section 81131(12).

9 (c) Unless the vehicle is equipped with a braking system that
10 may be operated by hand or foot, capable of producing deceleration

1 at 14 feet per second on level ground at a speed of 20 miles per
2 hour; a brake light, brighter than the taillight, visible from
3 behind the vehicle when the brake is activated, if the vehicle is
4 operated during the hours of 1/2 hour after sunset and 1/2 hour
5 before sunrise; and a throttle so designed that when the pressure
6 used to advance the throttle is removed, the engine speed will
7 immediately and automatically return to idle.

8 (d) In a state game area or state park or recreation area,
9 except on roads, trails, or areas designated for this purpose,
10 notwithstanding section 72118; on other state-owned lands under the
11 control of the department where the operation would be in violation
12 of rules promulgated by the department; in a forest nursery or
13 planting area; on public lands posted or reasonably identifiable as
14 an area of forest reproduction ~~, and~~ when growing stock may be
15 damaged; in a dedicated natural area of the department; or in any
16 area in such a manner as to create an erosive condition, or to
17 injure, damage, or destroy trees or growing crops. However, the
18 department may permit an owner and guests of the owner to use an
19 ORV within the boundaries of a state forest in order to access the
20 owner's property.

21 (e) On the frozen surface of public waters within 100 feet of
22 an individual not in or upon a vehicle, or within 100 feet of a
23 fishing shanty or shelter or an area that is cleared of snow for
24 skating purposes, except at the minimum speed required to maintain
25 controlled forward movement of the vehicle, or as may be authorized
26 by permit in special events.

27 (f) Unless the vehicle is equipped with a spark arrester type

1 United States Forest Service approved muffler, in good working
2 order and in constant operation. Exhaust noise emission shall not
3 exceed 86 Db(A) or 82 Db(A) on a vehicle manufactured after January
4 1, 1986, when the vehicle is under full throttle, traveling in
5 second gear, and measured 50 feet at right angles from the vehicle
6 path with a sound level meter that meets the requirement of ANSI
7 S1.4 1983, using procedure and ancillary equipment therein
8 described; or 99 Db(A) or 94 Db(A) on a vehicle manufactured after
9 January 1, 1986, or that level comparable to the current sound
10 level as provided for by the United States Environmental Protection
11 Agency when tested according to the provisions of the current SAE
12 J1287, June 86 test procedure for exhaust levels of stationary
13 motorcycles, using sound level meters and ancillary equipment
14 therein described. A vehicle subject to this part, manufactured or
15 assembled after December 31, 1972 and used, sold, or offered for
16 sale in this state, shall conform to the noise emission levels
17 established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency
18 under the noise control act of 1972, 42 USC 4901 to 4918.

19 (g) Within 100 feet of a dwelling at a speed greater than the
20 minimum required to maintain controlled forward movement of the
21 vehicle, except under any of the following circumstances:

22 (i) On property owned by or under the operator's control or on
23 which the operator is an invited guest.

24 (ii) On a forest road or forest trail if the forest road or
25 forest trail is maintained by or under the jurisdiction of the
26 department.

27 (iii) On a street, county road, or highway on which ORV use is

1 authorized pursuant to section 81131(2), (3), (5), or (6) **AND (7)**.

2 (h) In or upon the lands of another without the written
3 consent of the owner, the owner's agent, or a lessee, when required
4 by part 731. The operator of the vehicle is liable for damage to
5 private property caused by operation of the vehicle, including, but
6 not limited to, damage to trees, shrubs, or growing crops, injury
7 to other living creatures, or erosive or other ecological damage.
8 The owner of the private property may recover from the individual
9 responsible nominal damages of not less than the amount of damage
10 or injury. Failure to post private property or fence or otherwise
11 enclose in a manner to exclude intruders or of the private property
12 owner or other authorized person to personally communicate against
13 trespass does not imply consent to ORV use.

14 (i) In an area on which public hunting is permitted during the
15 regular November firearm deer season, from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and
16 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., except as follows:

17 (i) During an emergency.

18 (ii) For law enforcement purposes.

19 (iii) To go to and from a permanent residence or a hunting
20 camp otherwise inaccessible by a conventional wheeled vehicle.

21 (iv) To remove legally harvested deer, bear, or elk from
22 public land. An individual shall operate an ORV under this
23 subparagraph at a speed not exceeding 5 miles per hour, using the
24 most direct route that complies with subdivision (n).

25 (v) To conduct necessary work functions involving land and
26 timber survey, communication and transmission line patrol, or
27 timber harvest operations.

1 (vi) On property owned or under control of the operator or on
2 which the operator is an invited guest.

3 (vii) While operating a vehicle registered under the code on a
4 private road capable of sustaining automobile traffic or a street,
5 county road, or highway.

6 (viii) If the individual holds a valid permit to hunt from a
7 standing vehicle issued under part 401 or is a person with a
8 disability using an ORV to access public lands for purposes of
9 hunting or fishing through use of a designated trail or forest
10 road. An individual holding a valid permit to hunt from a standing
11 vehicle issued under part 401, or a person with a disability using
12 an ORV to access public lands for purposes of hunting or fishing,
13 may display a flag, the color of which the department shall
14 determine, to identify himself or herself as a person with a
15 disability or an individual holding a permit to hunt from a
16 standing vehicle under part 401.

17 (j) Except as otherwise provided in section 40111, while
18 transporting on the vehicle a bow unless unstrung or encased, or a
19 firearm unless unloaded and securely encased, or equipped with and
20 made inoperative by a manufactured keylocked trigger housing
21 mechanism.

22 (k) On or across a cemetery or burial ground, or land used as
23 an airport.

24 (l) Within 100 feet of a slide, ski, or skating area, unless
25 the vehicle is being used for the purpose of servicing the area or
26 is being operated pursuant to section 81131(2), (3), (5), or (6)
27 **AND (7).**

1 (m) On an operating or nonabandoned railroad or railroad
2 right-of-way, or public utility right-of-way, other than for the
3 purpose of crossing at a clearly established site intended for
4 vehicular traffic, except railroad, public utility, or law
5 enforcement personnel while in performance of their duties, and
6 except if the right-of-way is designated as provided for in section
7 81127.

8 (n) In or upon the waters of any stream, river, bog, wetland,
9 swamp, marsh, or quagmire except over a bridge, culvert, or similar
10 structure.

11 (o) To hunt, pursue, worry, kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue,
12 worry, or kill an animal, whether wild or domesticated.

13 (p) In a manner so as to leave behind litter or other debris.

14 (q) On public land, in a manner contrary to operating
15 regulations.

16 (r) While transporting or possessing, in or on the vehicle,
17 alcoholic liquor in a container that is open or uncapped or upon
18 which the seal is broken, except under either of the following
19 circumstances:

20 (i) The container is in a trunk or compartment separate from
21 the passenger compartment of the vehicle.

22 (ii) If the vehicle does not have a trunk or compartment
23 separate from the passenger compartment, the container is encased
24 or enclosed.

25 (s) While transporting any passenger in or upon an ORV unless
26 the manufacturing standards for the vehicle make provisions for
27 transporting passengers.

1 (t) On adjacent private land, in an area zoned residential,
2 within 300 feet of a dwelling at a speed greater than the minimum
3 required to maintain controlled forward movement of the vehicle
4 except under any of the following circumstances:

5 (i) On a forest road or forest trail if the forest road or
6 forest trail is maintained by or under the jurisdiction of the
7 department.

8 (ii) On a street, county road, or highway on which ORV use is
9 authorized under section 81131(2), (3), (5), or (6) **AND (7)**.

10 (u) On a forest trail if the ORV is greater than 50 inches in
11 width.

12 (2) An individual who is operating or is a passenger on an ORV
13 shall wear a crash helmet and protective eyewear that are approved
14 by the United States Department of Transportation. This subsection
15 does not apply to any of the following:

16 (a) An individual who owns the property on which the ORV is
17 operating, is a family member of the owner and resides at that
18 property, or is an invited guest of an individual who owns the
19 property. An exception under this subdivision does not apply to any
20 of the following:

21 (i) An individual less than 16 years of age.

22 (ii) An individual 16 or 17 years of age, unless the
23 individual has consent from his or her parent or guardian to ride
24 without a crash helmet.

25 (iii) An individual participating in an organized ORV riding
26 or racing event if an individual who owns the property receives
27 consideration for use of the property for operating ORVs.

1 (b) An individual wearing a properly adjusted and fastened
2 safety belt if the ORV is equipped with a roof that meets or
3 exceeds United States Department of Transportation standards for a
4 crash helmet.

5 (c) An ORV operated on a state-licensed game bird hunting
6 preserve at a speed of not greater than 10 miles per hour.

7 **(D) A FARM VEHICLE BEING DRIVEN TO A LOCATION WHERE IT WILL BE**
8 **USED FOR FARMING OR FROM A LOCATION WHERE IT WAS BEING USED FOR**
9 **FARMING.**

10 (3) Each person who participates in the sport of ORV riding
11 accepts the risks associated with that sport insofar as the dangers
12 are inherent. Those risks include, but are not limited to, injuries
13 to persons or property that can result from variations in terrain;
14 defects in traffic lanes; surface or subsurface snow or ice
15 conditions; bare spots; rocks, trees, and other forms of natural
16 growth or debris; and collisions with fill material, decks,
17 bridges, signs, fences, trail maintenance equipment, or other ORVs.
18 Those risks do not include injuries to persons or property that
19 result from the use of an ORV by another person in a careless or
20 negligent manner likely to endanger **A** person or property. When an
21 ORV is operated in the vicinity of a railroad right-of-way, each
22 person who participates in the sport of ORV riding additionally
23 assumes risks including, but not limited to, entanglement with
24 railroad tracks, switches, and ties and collisions with trains and
25 train-related equipment and facilities.

26 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days
27 after the date it is enacted into law.