

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2015

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HOUSE BILL 102  
Committee Substitute Favorable 3/10/15  
Third Edition Engrossed 3/16/15

Short Title: Utility Vehicles/Law Enforcement.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 27, 2015

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, EMERGENCY  
3 PERSONNEL, AND MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY EMPLOYEES TO OPERATE  
4 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:



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 only."~~

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