



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
4330 EAST WEST HIGHWAY
BETHESDA, MD 20814

February 20, 2015

The Honorable Caddy McKeown
Chairwoman
House Committee on Transportation and Economic Development
State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chairwoman McKeown:

As a U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commissioner, I am writing to state my opposition to the provisions of HB 2267 which authorizes the use of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and recreational off-highway vehicles (ROVs) on certain roads in Oregon.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission is currently considering a mandatory rulemaking for ROVs and is studying the hazards associated with ATVs. While there is disagreement on what regulatory actions CPSC should take, there is widespread agreement among manufacturers, user groups, and consumer groups on a key point: ATVs and ROVs are designed, manufactured, and sold for off-road use only.

The latest study from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety review of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Fatality Analysis Reporting System data (FARS) shows that deaths involving on-road use of ATVs have increased dramatically in recent years. Nationwide, on-road ATV deaths have increased 900% from 35 in 1982 – when FARS began distinguishing on- versus off-road incidents – to 319 in 2013.

As a former New Mexico state legislator, I fully understand state and local governments' desire to be free of mandates from the federal government. I take states' rights seriously as I make decisions as a CPSC Commissioner. I voted against the pending mandatory rulemaking for ROVs. But as state and local governments consider allowing on-road use of a product specifically designed and manufactured for off-road use, I feel compelled to share my views.

Thank you for the time and courtesy of being able to communicate with you on this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph P. Mohorovic". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Joseph P. Mohorovic
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission