
OREGON MOTOR VEHICLE DEALERS SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 2267

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Chair McKeown and members of the Transportation Committee:

The Oregon Vehicle Dealers Association represents nearly 600 independent business owners across the state of Oregon, making OVDA the largest auto dealer trade association in Oregon as far as we know. These dealers are primarily small businesses. On their behalf, OVDA monitors the Legislature and regulatory agencies with authority over motor vehicle dealers.

House Bill 2267 serves two important purposes. It permits certain all-terrain vehicles to use some public roads and it permits the owners of off-road motorcycles to reconfigure their motorcycle to be road-compliant. Please allow me to discuss each briefly:

The first part of the bill is one of several this session which deals with the ability of certain all-terrain vehicles to use some public roads. The all-terrain vehicles will need to comply with large number of safety requirements to qualify. And the governing authority of the road, most likely the county, will have to specifically permit all-terrain vehicles to use the roads. The most common example being the use of these all-terrain vehicles on gravel roads in very rural parts of the state where riding all-terrain vehicles is a popular recreational activity. Having permission to travel on designated public roads will eliminate the need for riders to trailer their ATV just to move small distances from one area to another.

The second part of the bill will permit an off-road motorcycle to qualify as a street-legal motorcycle if a manufacturer-certified service and repair technician signs a statement that the motorcycle complies with all of the safety requirements needed to be a street legal motorcycle. This process is legal in other states, but not Oregon. In the State of Washington this process also requires the state to certify the repair technician. We believe this is an avoidable cost and do not include it in our regimen.

While our economy is starting to recover, it is well recognized that it will be a slow process in Oregon. Allowing the owners of off-road motorcycles to convert their transportation to a street-legal bike can save many Oregonians thousands of dollars when it comes to providing needed transportation to and from work.

Thank you for considering this bill. I am happy to answer any questions.

Oregon Vehicle Dealers Association

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