

SB 107 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Transportation

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Meeting Dates: 2/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Modifies definition of Class IV all-terrain vehicle" by removing reference to tire size and adding reference to standard engine size. Deletes requirement that Class IV all-terrain vehicles with windshield be equipped with windshield wiper.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

All-terrain vehicles, or ATVs, come in several classes: Class I ATVs are generally three- or four-wheeled, weigh less than 1,200 lbs., use straddle seats and handlebar steering; Class II ATVs are larger vehicles, and often are off-road capable versions of street-legal vehicles; Class III ATVs are off-road motorcycles; and Class IV ATVs, often called side-by-sides or utility terrain vehicles, are smaller than Class IIs but typically have similar structure, such as non-straddle seating and steering wheels. ATVs are required to be licensed with the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) for operation on public lands, but typically are not authorized for on-road use.

The Class IV ATV is growing in popularity, and new variations on the design continue to be developed. The current statutory definition of a Class IV ATV includes reference to wheels with a maximum wheel rim diameter of 14 inches; however, some new models include 15-inch wheels, and thus would fall outside the current statutory definition.

Senate Bill 107 modifies the definition of Class IV ATV to remove the wheel size reference and replace it with specification of an engine of not more than 1,000 cubic centimeters. The measure also deletes the requirement that Class IV ATVs with windshields be equipped with a windshield wiper, replacing it with a requirement that the windshield must be unobstructed.