

Submitter: SHERIDAN KENT

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3155

I am writing to express my support for the proposal to allow off-road vehicles (ORVs) to be driven on certain public roads. As a strong advocate for recreational freedom, outdoor activities, and the mobility needs of rural and remote communities, I believe that permitting off-road vehicles on the road would offer several significant benefits.

Many off-road enthusiasts and rural residents rely on off-road vehicles such as ATVs, dirt bikes, and side-by-sides for transportation, recreation, and even essential tasks in areas where roads are limited or poorly maintained. Allowing these vehicles to access designated roadways would not only increase their practical utility but also enhance the overall quality of life for those who depend on them.

Some key reasons why I support this proposal include:

**Increased Access for Rural Communities:**

In many rural and remote areas, public transportation is limited, and the road infrastructure is often inadequate for traditional vehicles. Off-road vehicles can help bridge this gap, offering an affordable and efficient alternative to help individuals access basic services, work, and education.

**Safety and Mobility for Emergency Situations:**

Off-road vehicles can play an important role in emergency response efforts, especially in areas where traditional vehicles are unable to reach. Their ability to traverse rugged terrain makes them vital for emergency personnel and community members in times of need.

**Environmental and Recreational Benefits:**

Off-road vehicles are used by many for recreation and outdoor activities. Providing them with access to designated roadways, with appropriate safety measures, would allow enthusiasts to enjoy their vehicles more fully, promoting healthy, active lifestyles and connecting with nature.

**Economic Impact:**

The ability to use off-road vehicles on roads could stimulate local economies, especially in areas where off-road tourism is popular. It would support businesses such as outdoor gear shops, repair services, and tourism companies that rely on off-road enthusiasts to fuel their operations.

I understand the importance of ensuring that public safety, environmental concerns,

and road integrity are maintained. I strongly believe that with proper regulation and the implementation of safety standards (such as appropriate vehicle modifications, rider training, and designated routes), the integration of off-road vehicles on the roads can be done safely and responsibly.

I urge you to consider this proposal and work toward creating a feasible plan that would allow off-road vehicles to coexist with other road users, enhancing mobility, recreation, and the well-being of individuals across our communities.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your positive consideration of this proposal and am happy to discuss this further if needed.