

In response to this bill, it is important to recognize that Utility Task Vehicles (UTVs) are already tested and approved for Department of Transportation (DOT) safety compliance. Additionally, UTVs meet all pollution standard requirements, ensuring their environmental impact remains minimal. Due to their relatively low weight, UTVs cause significantly less wear and tear on highways and roads compared to traditional vehicles.

Furthermore, the UTV industry is a substantial economic driver, generating an estimated \$1.2 trillion annually. Allowing UTVs greater access to public roads would not only enhance mobility and recreational opportunities but also create a positive financial impact by increasing revenue streams for local and state governments through vehicle registration, tourism, and related economic activities. This bill represents an opportunity to support a growing industry while maintaining safety and environmental standards while increasing economic opportunity for Oregon rural communities.