

**SENATE . . . . . No. 2381**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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Senate, July 26, 2012.

BILL #: S02199

BILL STATUS: Favorable with Amendment

DISSENTERS:

None

ACCOMPANIED BILLS:

None

For the committee,

STEPHEN M. BREWER

# SENATE . . . . . No. 2381

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The committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the Senate bill relative to the use of off-highway and recreation vehicles (Senate, No. 2199); report recommending that the same ought to pass with an amendment substituting a new draft with the same title (Senate, No. 2381).

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand Twelve  
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An Act relative to the use of off-highway and recreation vehicles.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           SECTION 1. Section 21 of chapter 90B of the General laws, as appearing in the 2010  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the first sentence the following sentence:-

3           The director may exempt a participant of a sanctioned race, rally or event who is not a  
4 resident of the commonwealth from the requirements of this section.

5           SECTION 2. Section 22 of said chapter 90B, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
6 striking out the first paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:-

7           No person shall operate a snow vehicle or recreation vehicle unless the vehicle has been  
8 registered in accordance with this chapter and a registration number assigned by the director is  
9 displayed on the vehicle; provided, however, that the director may exempt a participant of a  
10 sanctioned race, rally or event who is not a resident of the commonwealth from the requirements  
11 of this section. The registration number shall be painted on or displayed by means of a decal or  
12 sticker firmly attached to both sides of the cowl of the vehicle and located so that both are

13 clearly visible and not obstructed. A snow vehicle or recreation vehicle without suitable cowling  
14 may locate the registration number on the forward suspension components or other suitable  
15 location as determined by the director so that it is clearly visible on both sides of the vehicle. The  
16 registration number displayed shall be not less than 3 inches in height and not less than 1/2 inch  
17 in width and shall be in a color that is in marked and distinct contrast to the background to which  
18 the number is applied. The registration number shall be maintained in a legible condition at all  
19 times. A motor vehicle license or learner's permit shall not be required for the operation of a  
20 snow vehicle or a recreation vehicle.

21 SECTION 3. Section 24 of said chapter 90B, as so appearing , is hereby amended by  
22 striking out the second paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:-

23 No snow vehicle or recreation vehicle shall be operated which emits noxious fumes or  
24 makes unusual or excessive noise. No snow vehicle or recreation vehicle manufactured on or  
25 after January 1, 1998, shall be operated that produces a sound pressure level of more than 96  
26 decibels when measured from a distance of 20 inches using test procedures established by the  
27 Society of Automotive Engineers under Standard J1287 JUL98. No snow vehicle or recreation  
28 vehicle manufactured before January 1, 1998, shall be operated that produces a sound pressure  
29 level of more than 101 decibels when measured from a distance of 20 inches using test  
30 procedures established by the Society of Automotive Engineers under said Standard J1287  
31 JUL98. This paragraph shall not apply to a snow vehicle or recreation vehicle being operated on  
32 a privately-owned track or closed course as permitted by local municipal authority; provided,  
33 however, that a snow vehicle or recreation vehicle manufactured before January 28, 1985, and  
34 substantially maintained in its original or restored condition shall meet the sound and emission  
35 specifications in place at the time of its manufacture.