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State of Minnesota  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
NINETIETH SESSION

**H. F. No. 1071**

02/13/2017 Authored by Ecklund and Fabian  
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Finance

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to natural resources; modifying youth all-terrain vehicle operation  
1.3 restrictions; amending Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 84.9256, subdivision 1.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 84.9256, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.6 Subdivision 1. **Prohibitions on youthful operators.** (a) Except for operation on public  
1.7 road rights-of-way that is permitted under section 84.928 and as provided under paragraph  
1.8 (j), a driver's license issued by the state or another state is required to operate an all-terrain  
1.9 vehicle along or on a public road right-of-way.

1.10 (b) A person under 12 years of age shall not:

1.11 (1) make a direct crossing of a public road right-of-way;

1.12 (2) operate an all-terrain vehicle on a public road right-of-way in the state; or

1.13 (3) operate an all-terrain vehicle on public lands or waters, except as provided in  
1.14 paragraph (f).

1.15 (c) Except for public road rights-of-way of interstate highways, a person 12 years of age  
1.16 but less than 16 years may make a direct crossing of a public road right-of-way of a trunk,  
1.17 county state-aid, or county highway or operate on public lands and waters or state or  
1.18 grant-in-aid trails, only if that person possesses a valid all-terrain vehicle safety certificate  
1.19 issued by the commissioner and is accompanied by a person 18 years of age or older who  
1.20 holds a valid driver's license.

2.1 (d) To be issued an all-terrain vehicle safety certificate, a person at least 12 years old,  
2.2 but less than 16 years old, must:

2.3 (1) successfully complete the safety education and training program under section 84.925,  
2.4 subdivision 1, including a riding component; and

2.5 (2) be able to properly reach and control the handle bars and reach the foot pegs while  
2.6 sitting upright on the seat of the all-terrain vehicle.

2.7 (e) A person at least 11 years of age may take the safety education and training program  
2.8 and may receive an all-terrain vehicle safety certificate under paragraph (d), but the certificate  
2.9 is not valid until the person reaches age 12.

2.10 (f) A person at least ten years of age but under 12 years of age may operate an all-terrain  
2.11 vehicle with an engine capacity up to ~~90cc~~ 170 cubic centimeters on public lands or waters  
2.12 if accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

2.13 (g) A person under 15 years of age shall not operate a class 2 all-terrain vehicle.

2.14 (h) A person under the age of 16 may not operate an all-terrain vehicle on public lands  
2.15 or waters or on state or grant-in-aid trails if the person cannot properly reach and control  
2.16 the handle bars and reach the foot pegs while sitting upright on the seat of the all-terrain  
2.17 vehicle.

2.18 (i) Notwithstanding paragraph (c), a nonresident at least 12 years old, but less than 16  
2.19 years old, may make a direct crossing of a public road right-of-way of a trunk, county  
2.20 state-aid, or county highway or operate an all-terrain vehicle on public lands and waters or  
2.21 state or grant-in-aid trails if:

2.22 (1) the nonresident youth has in possession evidence of completing an all-terrain safety  
2.23 course offered by the ATV Safety Institute or another state as provided in section 84.925,  
2.24 subdivision 3; and

2.25 (2) the nonresident youth is accompanied by a person 18 years of age or older who holds  
2.26 a valid driver's license.

2.27 (j) A person 12 years of age but less than 16 years of age may operate an all-terrain  
2.28 vehicle on the roadway, bank, slope, or ditch of a public road right-of-way as permitted  
2.29 under section 84.928 if the person:

2.30 (1) possesses a valid all-terrain vehicle safety certificate issued by the commissioner;  
2.31 and

2.32 (2) is accompanied by a parent or legal guardian on a separate all-terrain vehicle.