

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2020
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB371

Hearing Date: Tuesday February 12, 2019
Committee On: Transportation and Telecommunications
Introducer: Erdman
One Liner: Change provisions relating to requirements for all-terrain vehicles and utility-type vehicles

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Indefinitely postponed

Vote Results:

Aye: 8 Senators Albrecht, Bostelman, Cavanaugh, DeBoer, Friesen, Geist, Hilgers, Hughes
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Oral Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Steve Erdman

Representing:

Introducer

Opponents:

Kyle Schneweis
Lynn Rex

Representing:

NE Depart of Transportation
League of Nebraska Municipalities

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

This bill amends Section 60-6,256 of the Nebraska Rules of the Road relating to operation of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) or utility-type vehicles (UTVs). It also outright repeals two sections of the Rules of the Road, Section 60-6,357 relating to operation of those types of vehicles with headlights and taillights and Section 60-6,358 relating to those types of vehicles and brakes, muffler systems, and qualified spark arresters that are required before operation. It makes internal reference changes in four sections relating to motor vehicle registration related to the outright repeal of Sections 60-6,357 and 60-6,358.

LB 371 makes the following changes to current law. The bill would allow the operation of the vehicles on the roadway or shoulder of any public road, including highways with more than two lanes, except on the Interstate system. It allows ATVs and UTVs to cross controlled-access highways with more than two lanes (except on the Interstate system) at a right angle to the direction of the highway and at a place where no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing. Current law requires UTVs to cross at an intersection controlled by a traffic control signal or, in the case of an intersection outside a city limit, at a stop sign, but only if operation of UTV's within the political subdivision is specifically authorized by ordinance of a city or village or for unincorporated villages or outside the municipality limits, by resolution of the county board.

It also allows the operation of ATVs and UTVs by persons at least 12 years old but under 18 if accompanied by an adult 21 years of age or older who holds a valid Class O operator's license. The bill allows the operation of ATVs and UTVs

at night. Although it would require the vehicles to be equipped with working headlights, taillights, and either hand or foot brakes, it would no longer require the vehicles to operate with headlights and taillights on at all times and operate with a bicycle safety flag. The bill also strikes the requirement that a person operating an ATV or UTV on a public road have liability insurance and an operator's license or a farm permit, and removes the requirement that the vehicle not be operated faster than 30 mph.

Curt Friesen, Chairperson