

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 592

BY REPRESENTATIVE CHANCE HENRY

MTR VEHICLE/OFF ROAD: Removes the prohibition against utility terrain vehicles operating on parish roads without a designation by the parish or municipality

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 32:299.3(B) through (E), relative to the operation of utility  
3 terrain vehicles; to remove the prohibition against utility terrain vehicles operating  
4 on parish roads without a designation by the parish or municipality; to authorize  
5 utility terrain vehicles to operate on parish roads as long as the operator complies  
6 with age, license requirements, and insurance compliance; to authorize a  
7 governmental entity to regulate utility terrain vehicles as long as signage is posted  
8 providing notice of the regulations; to provide for restrictions on speed and eligible  
9 roadways to be used by utility terrain vehicles; to provide for registration; and to  
10 provide for related matters.

11 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

12 Section 1. R.S. 32:299.3(B) through (E) are hereby amended and reenacted to read  
13 as follows:

14 §299.3. Off-road vehicles; utility terrain vehicles

15 \* \* \*

16 B. Notwithstanding the provisions in R.S. 32:299, the operation of a utility  
17 terrain vehicle upon the public roads or streets of this state is prohibited, except as  
18 follows:

19 ~~(1) A utility terrain vehicle may be operated only upon a parish road that has~~  
20 ~~been designated by a parish or a municipal street that has been designated by a~~

1 ~~municipality for use by a utility terrain vehicle. Upon a designation that a utility~~  
2 ~~terrain vehicle may be operated on a designated road or street, the responsible~~  
3 ~~governmental entity shall post appropriate signage indicating that the operation is~~  
4 ~~authorized.~~

5 (1) A registered utility terrain vehicle may be operated upon any parish or  
6 state road or municipal street provided such activity is in compliance with the  
7 requirements contained in this Section.

8 (2) To protect public safety, a local governmental subdivision may regulate  
9 or restrict the operation of registered utility terrain vehicles on public roadways or  
10 municipal streets and may, at its discretion, post signage providing notice of such  
11 regulation or restriction.

12 ~~(2) A utility terrain vehicle may cross any divided highway, highway,~~  
13 ~~roadway, or street with a posted speed limit in excess of thirty-five miles per hour~~  
14 ~~at an intersection.~~

15 C. A utility terrain vehicle operated on any roadway or street shall be  
16 equipped with the minimum motor vehicle equipment appropriate for motor vehicle  
17 safety consistent with the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards within 49 CFR  
18 Part 571, headlamps, front and rear turn signal lamps, tail lamps, stop lamps, reflex  
19 reflectors, including one on each side as far to the rear as practicable and one red  
20 reflector on the rear of the vehicle, an exterior mirror mounted on the driver's side  
21 of the vehicle and either an exterior mirror mounted on the passenger's side of the  
22 vehicle or an interior mirror, a parking brake, an adequate windshield, a windshield  
23 wiper, speedometer, odometer, braking for each wheel, a seat belt assembly installed  
24 at each designated seating position, and a vehicle identification or serial number.

25 D.(1) Any utility terrain vehicle operated upon a parish road or municipal  
26 street shall be registered with the state of Louisiana through the Department of  
27 Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, ~~as an off-road vehicle~~ and  
28 shall display proper registration ~~a decal~~ issued by the office of motor vehicles.

29 (2) Registration of utility terrain vehicles may include a quick response (QR)



Proposed law requires UTVs be registered with the DPS&C, OMV and display proper registration from the OMV.

Proposed law authorizes the inclusion of a quick response code through the registration process that only law enforcement can use to access registration information. Specifies that this provision will not take effect until the department's system is updated to accommodate it.

Present law requires a person operating a UTV be at least 21 years old and possess a valid driver's license.

Proposed law removes the requirement that a UTV operator be at least 21 years of age.

(Amends R.S. 32:299.3(B)-(E))

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Remove an authorization for utility terrain vehicles to cross any divided highway, highway, roadway, or street with a posted street limit in excess of thirty-five miles per hour at an intersection.
3. Provide for provisions to apply to registered utility terrain vehicles.
4. Add a provision for minimum motor vehicle equipment standards to align with certain federal standards.
5. Require registration of utility terrain vehicles have a QR code, and specify that this provision will take effect when the department's system is updated to accommodate the registration of utility terrain vehicles and the issuance of QR codes.
6. Remove minimum age requirement for operating a utility terrain vehicle.
7. Remove a requirement that a utility terrain vehicle be registered as an off-road vehicle and that the office of motor vehicles issue a decal.

#### The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Make technical changes.