

The House Committee on Motor Vehicles offers the following substitute to HB 207:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 7 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 off-road vehicles, so as to redefine the term "off-road vehicle"; to change certain provisions
3 relating to operating restrictions; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

5 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

6 Chapter 7 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to off-road
7 vehicles, is amended by revising Code Section 40-7-3, relating to a definition of "off-road
8 vehicle," as follows:

9 "40-7-3.

10 As used in this chapter, the term 'off-road vehicle' means any motorized vehicle designed
11 for or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, snow, ice, marsh,
12 swampland, or other natural terrain and not intended for use predominantly on public roads.
13 It includes, but is not limited to, four-wheel drive or low-pressure tire vehicles, two-wheel
14 vehicles, amphibious machines, ground effect or air cushion vehicles, and any other means
15 of transportation deriving power from any source other than muscle or wind, except that
16 such term shall exclude any motorboat; any military, fire, ~~or~~ law enforcement ~~vehicle, or~~
17 other government vehicle being used for official purposes; any vehicles used exclusively
18 on airports; all farm machinery, farm tractors, and other vehicles used exclusively for
19 agricultural purposes; any self-propelled equipment for harvesting and transportation of
20 forest products, for clearing land for planting, for utility services and maintenance, for earth
21 moving, construction, or mining; and self-propelled lawnmowers, snowblowers, garden or
22 lawn tractors, or golf carts, while such vehicles are being used exclusively for their
23 designed purposes."

24 **SECTION 2.**

25 Said chapter is further amended by revising Code Section 40-7-4, relating to operating
26 restrictions, as follows:

27 "40-7-4.

28 Any person operating an off-road vehicle under any of the following conditions shall be
29 deemed to be in violation of this chapter and subject to the penalties provided in Code
30 Section 40-7-6:

31 (1) Without operative brakes or without mufflers or other silencing equipment;

32 (2) On any private property without the express written permission of the owner of the
33 property or his or her agent; or

34 (3) Within any navigable or nonnavigable stream, except when directly crossing the
35 stream."

36 **SECTION 3.**

37 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.