

Introduced: 1/30/68
Referred: State Affairs and
Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE
BY REQUEST

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 469

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the registration, operation, and
7 general regulation of snow vehicles."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. AS 05 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

10 CHAPTER 30. SNOW VEHICLES.

11 ARTICLE 1. REGISTRATION.

12 Sec. 05.30.010. UNLAWFUL TO OPERATE UNREGISTERED VEHICLE. Except
13 for operation on the owner's private property, no person may operate a
14 snow vehicle which has not been registered with the Department of
15 Revenue as provided in this chapter.

16 Sec. 05.30.020. REGISTRATION AND REGISTRATION FEE. A registration
17 is valid for two years commencing September 1, 1968. The registration
18 fee is \$5, which shall be paid into the general fund.

19 Sec. 05.30.030. EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION FEE. Snow vehicles
20 owned by the federal or state government or a political subdivision of
21 the federal or state government shall be registered but are not required
22 to pay a registration fee.

23 Sec. 05.30.040. REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE AND DECALS. (a) Upon
24 registration of a snow vehicle, the registrant shall be issued a regis-
25 tration certificate and two numbered decals containing the registration
26 number of the vehicle. Once a snow vehicle has been issued a number, it
27 shall retain that number until the vehicle is destroyed, abandoned or
28 permanently removed from the state.

29 (b) Numbered registration decals shall be displayed on each side

1 of the cowling of a snow vehicle.

2 Sec. 05.30.050. TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP. When ownership of a snow
3 vehicle is transferred, the registration certificate shall be signed
4 by the seller and show the name and address of the buyer, and shall
5 be returned by the seller to the Department of Revenue within 10
6 days of the date of the sale. The buyer shall apply for a registration
7 certificate within 10 days of the sale and shall set out the original
8 registration number in the application.

9 Sec. 05.30.060. DEALER'S LICENSE. A person who is in the
10 business of selling snow vehicles in the state shall register with the
11 Department of Revenue as a dealer and secure a dealer's license. A
12 licensee under this section is authorized to demonstrate snow vehicles
13 for the purpose of sale only. The vehicles under demonstration are
14 not required to be individually registered, but the dealer's license
15 number shall be displayed on each vehicle. A licensed dealer shall be
16 exempt from the provisions of sec. 05.30.050.

17 ARTICLE 2. RESTRICTIONS ON OPERATION.

18 Sec. 05.30.080. USE ON PUBLIC HIGHWAY. (a) No person may
19 operate a snow vehicle upon a controlled access highway or within its
20 right-of-way limits.

21 (b) No person may operate a snow vehicle upon the main travelled
22 portion or shoulder of a public highway, with the following exceptions:

23 (1) Properly registered snow vehicles may cross as directly
24 as possible public highways, except controlled access highways,
25 provided the crossing can be made with safety and does not interfere
26 with free movement of vehicular traffic on the highway. Snow vehicles
27 shall yield right-of-way to vehicular traffic before crossing a
28 public highway.

29 (2) Whenever it is impracticable to gain access to an area

1 adjacent to a public highway where a snow vehicle is to be operated, the
2 snow vehicle may be operated adjacent and parallel to the public highway
3 for the purpose of gaining access to the area of operation. This sub-
4 section applies only to the operation of a snow vehicle from the point
5 where it is unloaded from a motorized conveyance to the area where the
6 snow vehicle is to be operated, or from the area where operated to a
7 motorized conveyance, where the loading or unloading cannot be effected
8 in the immediate vicinity of the area of operation without causing a
9 hazard to vehicular traffic on the public highway. The loading or un-
10 loading shall be accomplished at the nearest possible point to the area
11 of operation.

12 (3) A snow vehicle may operate on that portion of a public
13 highway that is not maintained or utilized for the operation of con-
14 ventional motor vehicles.

15 (4) Unless there are guards present, no person under the
16 age of 14 years may operate a snow vehicle when crossing a public
17 highway which is maintained for the travel of conventional motor
18 vehicles.

19 (5) When, in the determination of the commissioner of public
20 safety, traffic, weather and other conditions and circumstances warrant,
21 the commissioner may designate those public highways, or portions of
22 public highways, outside of incorporated cities and villages and
23 organized boroughs, to which the restrictions of this section shall not
24 apply. In making such designation, the commissioner may limit the
25 period during which the exemption shall be in effect and otherwise
26 limit the terms and conditions of such exemption.

27 (6) Except for limited, controlled access or other public
28 highways under the exclusive or concurrent control of the State of
29 Alaska, the governing body of an incorporated city and village and

1 organized borough may exempt any public highway within its jurisdiction
2 from the restrictions of this section and prescribe the terms and con-
3 ditions of such exemption.

4 Sec. 05.30.090. HEAD AND TAIL LAMPS. A snow vehicle crossing or
5 driving along a right-of-way during the hours of darkness shall display
6 a lighted head lamp and tail lamp.

7 Sec. 05.30.100. RECKLESS OPERATION UNLAWFUL. It is unlawful for
8 a person to operate a snow vehicle in a reckless manner or in a manner
9 so as to endanger persons or property.

10 Sec. 05.30.110. DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED UNLAWFUL. It is unlaw-
11 ful to operate a snow vehicle while intoxicated or under the influence
12 of intoxicating liquor.

13 Sec. 05.30.130. UNREASONABLE NOISE UNLAWFUL. No person may
14 operate a snow vehicle without an adequate muffler, or in such a manner
15 as to cause an unreasonable amount of noise.

16 Sec. 05.30.140. USE ON ANOTHER'S PROPERTY. A person operating a
17 snow vehicle upon the land of another shall stop and identify himself
18 upon the request of the land owner or his authorized representative.
19 Nothing in this section or in this chapter is to be construed as giving
20 license or permission to cross or go on the property of another.

21 Sec. 05.30.160. EQUIPMENT REQUIRED. A snow vehicle is required
22 to contain the following equipment:

23 (1) brakes adequate to control the movement of and to stop
24 and to hold the vehicle under normal conditions of operation;

25 (2) at least one head lamp so aimed and of sufficient in-
26 tensity to reveal persons and objects at a distance of at least 100
27 feet ahead during hours of darkness under normal atmospheric conditions;

28 (3) a throttle which, when released by the hand, will return
29 the engine speed to idle.

ARTICLE 3. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

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2 **Sec. 05.30.170. REPORTING OF ACCIDENTS.** The operator of a snow
3 vehicle involved in an accident resulting in injury to, or death of a
4 person, or property damage other than to his snow vehicle the estimated
5 amount of \$100 or more, shall immediately, by the quickest means of com-
6 munication, give notice of the accident to the nearest state trooper or
7 city police officer.

8 **Sec. 05.30.180. REGULATIONS.** The commissioner of public safety
9 shall promulgate regulations necessary to carry out the purposes of
10 this chapter.

11 **Sec. 05.30.190. PENALTY.** A person who violates a provision of
12 this chapter or a regulation promulgated under this chapter is guilty
13 of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, is punishable by a fine of not
14 more than \$100 for each offense.

15 **Sec. 05.30.200. DEFINITIONS.** In this chapter

16 (1) "cowling" means the forward or rear portion of a snow
17 vehicle surrounding the motor and clutch assembly;

18 (2) "snow vehicle" means a vehicle propelled by mechanical
19 power, supported in part by skis, belts, cleats, or low pressure tires,
20 and primarily designed to travel over ice or snow.
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