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AN ACT  
RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; ALLOWING RECREATIONAL OFF-HIGHWAY  
AND ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES TO DRIVE ON PAVED ROADS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 66-3-1011 NMSA 1978 (being  
Laws 1975, Chapter 240, Section 11, as amended) is amended to  
read:

"66-3-1011. OPERATION ON STREETS OR HIGHWAYS--  
PROHIBITED AREAS.--

A. A person shall not operate an off-highway motor  
vehicle on any:

(1) limited access highway or freeway at any  
time; or

(2) paved street or highway except as  
provided in Subsection B, C or D of this section.

B. Off-highway motor vehicles may cross streets or  
highways, except limited access highways or freeways, if the  
crossings are made after coming to a complete stop prior to  
entering the roadway. Off-highway motor vehicles shall yield  
the right of way to oncoming traffic and shall begin a  
crossing only when it can be executed safely and then cross  
in the most direct manner as close to a perpendicular angle  
as possible.

C. If authorized by ordinance or resolution of a

1 local authority or the state transportation commission, a  
2 recreational off-highway vehicle or an all-terrain vehicle  
3 may be operated on a paved street or highway owned and  
4 controlled by the authorizing entity if:

5 (1) the vehicle has one or more headlights  
6 and one or more taillights that comply with the Off-Highway  
7 Motor Vehicle Act;

8 (2) the vehicle has brakes, mirrors and  
9 mufflers;

10 (3) the operator has a valid driver's  
11 license, instruction permit or provisional license and an  
12 off-highway motor vehicle safety permit;

13 (4) the operator is insured in compliance  
14 with the provisions of the Mandatory Financial Responsibility  
15 Act; and

16 (5) the operator of the vehicle is wearing  
17 eye protection and a safety helmet that comply with the  
18 Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Act.

19 D. By ordinance or resolution, a local authority  
20 or state transportation commission may establish separate  
21 speed limits and operating restrictions for off-highway  
22 vehicles where they are authorized to operate on paved  
23 streets or highways pursuant to Subsection C of this section.

24 E. A person shall not operate an off-highway motor  
25 vehicle on state game commission-owned, -controlled or

1 -administered land except as specifically allowed pursuant to  
2 Chapter 17, Article 6 NMSA 1978.

3 F. A person shall not operate an off-highway motor  
4 vehicle on land owned, controlled or administered by the  
5 state parks division of the energy, minerals and natural  
6 resources department, pursuant to Chapter 16, Article 2  
7 NMSA 1978, except in areas designated by and permitted by  
8 rules adopted by the secretary of energy, minerals and  
9 natural resources.

10 G. Unless authorized, a person shall not:

11 (1) remove, deface or destroy any official  
12 sign installed by a state, federal, local or private land  
13 management agency; or

14 (2) install any off-highway motor  
15 vehicle-related sign." \_\_\_\_\_

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