
HOUSE BILL 1514

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1991 Regular Session

By Representatives Silver, Day, Orr, Moyer, D. Sommers and Paris.

Read first time January 31, 1991. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to snowmobiles; and amending RCW 46.10.090.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

3 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.10.090 and 1980 c 148 s 1 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 (1) It is a traffic infraction for any person to operate any
6 snowmobile:

7 (a) At a rate of speed greater than reasonable and prudent under
8 the existing conditions.

9 (b) In a manner so as to endanger the property of another.

10 (c) Without a lighted headlight and taillight between the hours of
11 dusk and dawn, or when otherwise required for the safety of others.

12 (d) Without an adequate braking device which may be operated either
13 by hand or foot.

1 (e) Without an adequate and operating muffling device which shall
2 effectively blend the exhaust and motor noise in such a manner so as to
3 preclude excessive or unusual noise, and, (i) on snowmobiles
4 manufactured on or before January 4, 1973, which shall effectively
5 limit such noise at a level of eighty-six decibels, or below, on the
6 "A" scale at fifty feet, and (ii) on snowmobiles manufactured after
7 January 4, 1973, which shall effectively limit such noise at a level of
8 eighty-two decibels, or below, on the "A" scale at fifty feet, and
9 (iii) on snowmobiles manufactured after January 1, 1975, which shall
10 effectively limit such noise at a level of seventy-eight decibels, or
11 below, as measured on the "A" scale at a distance of fifty feet, under
12 testing procedures as established by the department of ecology; except
13 snowmobiles used in organized racing events in an area designated for
14 that purpose may use a bypass or cutout device. This section shall not
15 affect the power of the department of ecology to adopt noise
16 performance standards for snowmobiles. Noise performance standards
17 adopted or to be adopted by the department of ecology shall be in
18 addition to the standards contained in this section, but the
19 department's standards shall supersede this section to the extent of
20 any inconsistency.

21 (f) Upon the paved portion or upon the shoulder or inside bank or
22 slope of any public roadway or highway, or upon the median of any
23 divided highway, except as provided in RCW 46.10.100 and 46.10.110.

24 (g) In any area or in such a manner so as to expose the underlying
25 soil or vegetation, or to injure, damage, or destroy trees or growing
26 crops.

27 (h) Without a current registration decal affixed thereon, if not
28 exempted under RCW 46.10.030 (~~(as now or hereafter amended)~~).

29 (i) On public or private land, unless the operator and riders are
30 wearing protective helmets that conform to rules adopted by the state

1 patrol under RCW 46.37.530. The helmet must be equipped with (i)
2 either a neck or chin strap which shall be securely fastened while the
3 snowmobile is in motion, except when the snowmobile is being loaded or
4 unloaded, and (ii) full ear protection.

5 (2) It is a misdemeanor for any person to operate any snowmobile so
6 as to endanger the person of another or while under the influence of
7 intoxicating liquor or narcotics or habit-forming drugs.