

Bill as Introduced

HB 1159 - AS INTRODUCED

2010 SESSION

10-2286

10/01

HOUSE BILL **1159**

AN ACT relative to the classification of snowmobile trails maintenance vehicles.

SPONSORS: Rep. D. Reed, Merr 2; Rep. Palfrey, Merr 2

COMMITTEE: Resources, Recreation and Development

ANALYSIS

This bill classifies snowmobile trails maintenance vehicles as snowmobiles for purposes of regulation under RSA 215-C.

This bill is a request of the fish and game department.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in **bold italics**.
 Matter removed from current law appears ~~(in brackets and struck through.)~~
 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Ten

AN ACT relative to the classification of snowmobile trails maintenance vehicles.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Snowmobiles; Definition; Trails Maintenance Vehicles; Classification. Amend RSA 215-C:1,
2 XVIII to read as follows:

3 XVIII. "Snowmobile trails maintenance vehicle" means any mechanically-propelled vehicle
4 used to maintain snowmobile trails or cross country ski trails, classified by the chief of the bureau of
5 trails. When such vehicle is registered as a snowmobile trails maintenance vehicle, it shall not be
6 used for recreational purposes. *Notwithstanding the definition of a snowmobile under*
7 *paragraph XV, all snowmobile trails maintenance vehicles shall be classified as*
8 *snowmobiles for purposes of this chapter.*

9 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

Speakers

Hearing Minutes

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 1159

BILL TITLE: relative to the classification of snowmobile trails maintenance vehicles.

DATE: February 9, 2010

LOB ROOM: 305 **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 9:45 a.m.

Time Adjourned: 10:00 a.m.

(please circle if present)

Committee Members: Reps. Spang, Tupper, Parkhurst, Moody, Aguiar, Gottling, Hubbard, Kepner, Thomas, C. Williams, McClammer, D. Russell, Renzullo, C. Christensen, Ahlgren, Kapples, Spaulding, Bolster, T. Howard and St. Cyr.

Bill Sponsors: Rep. D. Reed, Merr 2; Rep. Palfrey, Merr 2

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

Introduced by Rep. Aguiar:

Major Timothy Acerno, NH Fish and Game Department - Supports the bill. Program coordinator for safety. Wants to be optimistic that this will be an easy fix. Created separate definitions of snowmobiles and OHRVs. When chapter split forgot to put in that maintenance vehicles should be considered snowmobiles for the purpose of the split.

Rep. Tupper: Did Fish and Game approach the sponsors to introduce this bill? ANS: Yes.

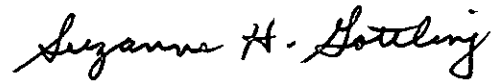
Rep. Aguiar: Clarify the difference and what impact they have on trails. ANS: They are our groomers. Used to be registered as motor vehicles. Are they OHRVs or snowmobiles? Do cross roads. Wanted to protect operators of groomers. Cannot use them as recreational vehicles. Some look like a snowmobile but are set up for heavy work.

Rep. Ahlgren: Seems cumbersome. Shouldn't wording be added to the definition of a snowmobile? ANS: Just mirrored language from OHRV part of bill.

Chris Gamache, Director, Bureau of Trails, NH Department of Resources & Economic Development (DRED) - Supporting legislation. A housekeeping item to fix what was missed in 2005. Can't define as snowmobile because there are size and weight limits for them. Trail maintenance vehicles are now classified and anyone wanting to get a sticker as one must get recognition from Fish and Game. Some folks were buying old groomers and using them to get to their camps.

Rep. Bolster: Asked about private ownership. ANS: Any snow-grooming equipment must have a sticker.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Suzanne H. Gottling". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Rep. Suzanne H. Gottling
Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 1159

BILL TITLE: relative to the classification of snowmobile trails maintenance vehicles.

DATE: 2/9/10

LOB ROOM: 305 **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 9:45 am

Time Adjourned:

(please circle if present)

Committee Members: Reps. Spang, ~~Tupper~~, ~~Parkhurst~~, ~~Moody~~, ~~Aguiar~~, ~~Gottling~~, ~~Hubbard~~, ~~Kepner~~, ~~Thomas~~, C. Williams, ~~McClammer~~, ~~D. Russell~~, Renzullo, C. Christensen, ~~Ahlgren~~, ~~Kappler~~, Spaulding, ~~Bolster~~, ~~T. Howard~~ and ~~St. Cyr~~.

Bill Sponsors: Rep. D. Reed, Merr 2; Rep. Palfrey, Merr 2

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

Public Hearing on HB 1159

Relative to the classification of snowmobile maintenance vehicles

2/9/10 LOB 305 9:45 a.m.

Introduced by Rep. Aguiar:

Testimony: Major Timothy Acerno: Program coordinator for safety. Wants to be optimistic that this will be an easy fix. Created separate definitions of snowmobiles and OHRVs. When chapter split forgot to put in that maintenance vehicles should be considered snowmobiles for the purpose of the split.

Rep. Tupper: Did Fish and Game approach the sponsors to introduce this bill?

Ans. Yes.

Rep. Aguiar. Clarify the difference and what impact they have on trails.

Ans. They are our groomers. Used to be registered as motor vehicles. Are they OHRVs or snowmobiles? Do cross roads. Wanted to protect operators of groomers. Cannot use them as recreational vehicles. Some look like a snowmobile but are set up for heavy work.

Rep. Ahlgren: Seems cumbersome. Shouldn't wording be added to the definition of a snowmobile.

Ans. Just mirrored language from OHRV part of bill.

Director Gamache: DRED: Supporting legislation. A housekeeping item to fix what was missed in 2005. Can't define as snowmobile because there are size and weight limits for them. Trail maintenance vehicles are now classified and anyone wanting to get a sticker as one must get recognition from Fish and Game. Some folks were buying old groomers and using them to get to their camps.

Rep. Bolster: Asked about private ownership.

Ans. Any snow-grooming equipment must have a sticker.

Adjourned 10:00 a.m.

Testimony



New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

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(603) 271-3421
FAX (603) 271-1438

www.WildNH.com
e-mail: info@wildlife.nh.gov
TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964

New Hampshire Fish and Game Department Testimony in support of HB 1159

An act relative to the classification of snowmobile trails maintenance vehicles

**House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee
February 9, 2010**

Good morning Madam Chair and members of the Committee. For the record my name is Timothy Acerno and I am the Assistant Chief of Law Enforcement for the Fish and Game Department. I am also the OHRV and Snowmobile Program Coordinator with respect to Law Enforcement and Safety Education. The Department requested this bill and the Fish and Game Commission voted to support it.

During the 2005 Legislative Session RSA Chapter 215-C was created, separating snowmobiles from OHRVs. This split was supported by the Department to better facilitate the operation of the different recreational vehicle programs. While working with the Legislature and the various organizations involved we thought the proposal was all inclusive. Recently the Department discovered that while an OHRV Trails Maintenance Vehicle is considered as an OHRV for the purposes of RSA Chapter 215-A, a Snowmobile Trails Maintenance Vehicle is not considered as a snowmobile for the purposes of RSA Chapter 215-C. This proposal will correct that matter

Madam Chair, thank you for the opportunity to testify before the Committee this morning and the Department urges the Committee to vote in support of this proposal.

REGION 1

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Lancaster, NH 03584-3612
(603) 788-3164
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REGION 2

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REGION 3

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REGION 4

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Voting Sheets

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 1159

BILL TITLE: relative to the classification of snowmobile trails maintenance vehicles.

DATE: February 11, 2010

LOB ROOM: 305

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Motions: OTP OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. Russell

Seconded by Rep. Tupper

Vote: 17-0 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE: 17-0

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Suzanne H. Gottling, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 1159

BILL TITLE: relative to the classification of snowmobile trails maintenance vehicles.

DATE: 2/11/10

LOB ROOM: 305

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

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Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Motions: OTP OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. *Russell*

Seconded by Rep. *Trupper*

Vote: 17-0 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE:

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Suzanne H. Gottling, Clerk

RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Bill #: 1159 Title: relative to the classification of snowmobile trail maintenance vehicles

PH Date: / /

Exec Session Date: 2 / 11 / 10

Motion: OTP Amendment #:

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
Spang, Judith T, Chairman	✓	
Tupper, Frank A, V Chairman	✓	
Parkhurst, Henry A. L.	✓	
Moody, Marcia G	✓	
Aguiar, James D	✓	
Gottling, Suzanne H, Clerk	✓	
Hubbard, Pamela J	✓	
Kepner, Susan R	-	
Thomas, Yvonne D	✓	
Williams, Carol A	-	
McClammer, Jim U	✓	
Russell, David H	✓	
Renzullo, Andrew	✓	
Christensen, Chris	✓	
Ahlgren, Christopher J	✓	
Kappler, L. Mike	✓	
Spaulding, Jayne E	✓	
Bolster, Peter S	-	
Howard, Thomas J	✓	
St. Cyr, Jeffrey L	✓	
TOTAL VOTE:	17	0

Committee Report

CONSENT CALENDAR

February 11, 2010

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

**The Committee on RESOURCES, RECREATION AND
DEVELOPMENT to which was referred HB1159,**

**AN ACT relative to the classification of snowmobile
trails maintenance vehicles. Having considered the
same, report the same with the recommendation that
the bill OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. David H Russell

FOR THE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT
Bill Number:	HB1159
Title:	relative to the classification of snowmobile trails maintenance vehicles.
Date:	February 11, 2010
Consent Calendar:	YES
Recommendation:	OUGHT TO PASS

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This is a housekeeping bill which simply classifies a trail grooming machine as a snowmobile. It allows them to cross public highways as a "recreational" snowmobile can. Every groomer still needs certification from the bureau of trails and the department of fish and game. The bill was requested by the fish and game department.

Vote 17-0.

Rep. David H Russell
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

CONSENT CALENDAR

RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT

HB1159, relative to the classification of snowmobile trails maintenance vehicles. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. David H Russell for **RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT**. This is a housekeeping bill which simply classifies a trail grooming machine as a snowmobile. It allows them to cross public highways as a "recreational" snowmobile can. Every groomer still needs certification from the bureau of trails and the department of fish and game. The bill was requested by the fish and game department. **Vote 17-0.**

HB 1159

OTP

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17-0

David Russell

17-0 ⁰⁴¹² consult

HB 1159

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David Russell



HB 1159

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David Russell

Committee Report

HB 1159

This is a housekeeping bill which simply re-defines a trail grooming machine as a snowmobile. ~~This~~ ^{It} allows them to cross public highways ~~the~~ same as a "recreational" snowmobile ^{can}. Every groomer still needs certification from the Bureau of Trails, and the Dept of Fish & Game. The bill is at the request of Fish & Game.

D. F. Russell

JS