

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DOT 1/15/2014

LRB Number	13-0101/1	Introduction Number	AB-0527	Estimate Type	Original
Description Operation of all-terrain vehicles and utility terrain vehicles on highways for the purpose of certain types of access and granting rule-making authority					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The operation of an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) or utility terrain vehicle (UTV) on the roadway of a highway, street, or road is currently permitted only in certain limited circumstances. This bill authorizes the operation of an ATV or UTV by an operator who is at least 16 years old on a portion of a roadway and shoulder of a highway, street, or road if the highway, street, or road is within the territorial boundaries of a county, city, village, or town that has enacted an ordinance allowing the operation of an ATV or UTV on that roadway and shoulder for certain traveling purposes. The bill will presumably result in an increased use of both the roadway and shoulder of highways by these types of vehicles.

At this time, the Department is unable to determine the exact amount of costs it will incur from the bill. The impact of expanded ATV and UTV use of the state trunk highway system and local highway system will increase both the roadway costs, in terms of maintenance and signing, as well as the law enforcement needs associated with more ATV and UTV operators on highways. In addition, when a county or municipality wants to enact an ordinance affecting a state highway by more than one-quarter mile, Department resources would be required to review and evaluate the request.

Past experience of the Department indicates that some maintenance and repair work to roadways and areas adjacent to the roadway may be necessary after 3-5 years of use by ATVs and UTVs, resulting in costs ranging from \$20,000 to \$25,000 per half-mile. This work includes shoulder rehabilitation, slope and ditch restoration, ditch drainage, culverts, driveways, roadside vegetation, and pavement. Local municipalities may also have similar maintenance and repair needs, due to increased usage by ATVs and UTVs of roadways and areas adjacent to the roadways under their jurisdiction.

The Department also anticipates it will incur costs related to posting additional signage pertaining to ATVs and UTVs. The total fabrication and installation cost for each sign is \$300.

In addition, the bill requires the Department to prepare model ordinances as examples of ordinances that a municipality may enact. The Department has had no previous practice in drafting such an ordinance. Therefore, costs associated with preparing model ordinances are unknown.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Indeterminate.