



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2009 Wisconsin Act 85
[2009 Senate Bill 241]

Definition of “All-Terrain Vehicle”

Current Law

Current law defines an “all-terrain vehicle” (ATV) as an engine-driven device with a width of not more than 48 inches and a net weight of 900 pounds or less that is equipped with a seat designed to be straddled by the vehicle operator and that is designed to travel on at least three low-pressure tires.

Under current law, a low-pressure tire is a tire that has a minimum width of six inches, that is designed to be mounted on a rim with a maximum diameter of 12 inches, and that is designed to be inflated with an operating pressure not to exceed six pounds per square inch.

2009 Wisconsin Act 85

2009 Wisconsin Act 85 makes the following changes to the statutory definition of an ATV:

- Increases the maximum manufactured width of an ATV to 50 inches.
- Requires that the ATV be designed by the manufacturer to travel on three or more low-pressure tires.
- Increases the maximum operating pressure for a low-pressure tire to 10 pounds per square inch.
- Eliminates the rim diameter requirement.

The Act also prohibits the operation of an ATV with tires other than low-pressure tires and prohibits modifications to an ATV that result in its width exceeding 50 inches.

Effective date: December 16, 2009.

Prepared by: Larry Konopacki, Staff Attorney

December 10, 2009

LAK:ksm

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature’s Web site at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>.