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## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

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<b>2015 Wisconsin Act 210</b> [2015 Senate Bill 381]	<b>Age Restriction for Operating a Small Utility Terrain Vehicle</b>
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### **BACKGROUND**

Unless an exception applies, a person may not operate, rent, or lease a utility terrain vehicle (UTV) unless he or she is at least 16 years of age. An exception to this requirement authorizes a person who is under 16 years of age to operate a UTV for an agricultural purpose if he or she is under the supervision of a person over 18 years of age.

Also unless an exception applies, a person may not operate an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) unless he or she is at least 12 years of age. One exception to this requirement allows a person who is under 12 years of age to operate a small ATV on an ATV trail designed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) if he or she is accompanied by his or her parent or guardian or by a person who is at least 18 years of age who is designated by the parent or guardian. "Small ATV" is defined by statute to mean an ATV with four wheels with an engine that does not exceed a specified size.

### **2015 WISCONSIN ACT 210**

Wisconsin Act 210 creates an additional exception to the general requirement that a person must be at least 16 years of age to operate a UTV. The Act provides that a person under the age of 16, but who is at least 12 years of age, may operate a small UTV on an ATV trail designated by the DNR if he or she is accompanied by his or her parent or guardian or by a person who is at least 18 years of age who is designated by the parent or guardian. The Act defines a small UTV as "a utility terrain vehicle that has 4 wheels and that has either an engine certified by the manufacturer at not more than 200 cubic centimeters or an equivalent power unit."

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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.wisconsin.gov>.

The Act also modifies the definition of “small ATV.” This change increases the allowable engine size of a small ATV from 90 cubic centimeters to 130 cubic centers.

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