



State of Wisconsin  
2025 - 2026 LEGISLATURE

LRB-0781/1

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## 2025 SENATE BILL 331

June 19, 2025 - Introduced by Senators MARKLEIN, STAFSHOLT, FEYEN and NASS, cosponsored by Representatives MURSAU, GREEN, GOODWIN, KAUFERT, KNODL, MELOTIK, O'CONNOR and PIWOWARCZYK. Referred to Committee on Transportation and Local Government.

1     **AN ACT** *to renumber* 23.33 (1) (ja), 23.33 (1) (jc), 23.33 (1) (jd) and 23.33 (1) (je);  
2           *to renumber and amend* 23.33 (11m); *to amend* 23.33 (1) (ng) 1. e., 23.33 (3)  
3           (a), 23.33 (4) (d) 3. a., 23.33 (4) (d) 3. b., 23.33 (6) (b), 23.33 (6) (c), 23.33 (6) (d),  
4           23.33 (6) (f), 23.33 (11) (am) 3. (intro.), 23.33 (11) (am) 3. a., 23.33 (11) (am) 3.  
5           c., 23.33 (11) (am) 3. e., 340.01 (2g), 340.01 (3) (a), 340.01 (3) (b), 340.01 (3) (c),  
6           340.01 (3) (d), 340.01 (3) (dg), 340.01 (3) (dh), 340.01 (3) (dm) (intro.) and  
7           340.01 (74); *to repeal and recreate* 23.33 (6) (a); *to create* 23.33 (1) (dr),  
8           23.33 (1) (fb), 23.33 (1) (fc), 23.33 (1) (iq), 23.33 (1) (jb), 23.33 (1) (jh), 23.33 (4)  
9           (d) 8., 23.33 (6) (ar), 23.33 (7m), 23.33 (11m) (b), 23.33 (13) (g), 23.335 (1) (zde),  
10          23.335 (9) (d), 340.01 (37r), 340.01 (73e), 350.01 (10a) and 350.10 (4) of the  
11          statutes; **relating to:** operation of all-terrain and utility terrain vehicles, off-

**SENATE BILL 331**

- 1 highway motorcycles, and snowmobiles and revision of the Department of  
2 Transportation highway maintenance manual.

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***Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau***

This bill makes numerous changes to laws relating to all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), utility terrain vehicles (UTVs), off-highway motorcycles (OHMs), and snowmobiles.

***Careless operation of an ATV or UTV***

Current law prohibits a person from operating an ATV or UTV in any careless way that endangers the person or property of another. The bill prohibits a person from operating an ATV or UTV in any careless, reckless, or negligent manner so as to impair the life, person, or property of another. Under the bill, for a violation of this prohibition that results in impairment of the property of another, the court may hold the defendant liable for treble damages, to be recovered by the person responsible for maintenance of the property, and may order the defendant to restore, rebuild, repair, or replace the property.

***ATV and UTV operation on a bridge, culvert, or railroad right-of-way***

Under current law generally, a person may not operate an ATV or UTV on a highway. However, a person may operate an ATV or UTV on the shoulder or roadway of a highway to cross a bridge that is no more than 1,000 feet long if the operation complies with a local ordinance that applies to the bridge. Current law requires that such an ordinance require a person to stop his or her ATV or UTV before crossing the bridge. The bill eliminates the 1,000-foot limitation and expands this authorization to include culverts and railroad rights-of-way.

***Equipment required on ATVs and UTVs***

Current law requires ATVs and UTVs to be equipped with a headlamp and a tail lamp. The bill requires ATVs and UTVs to be equipped also with a brake light. The bill also requires all required lights to be in working condition and prohibits operation of an ATV or UTV unless required headlamps and tail lamps are lighted. Current law also requires ATVs and UTVs to be equipped with a brake operated either by hand or by foot. The bill specifies that the brake must be functioning.

***Duty to render aid***

The bill provides that the operator of an ATV or UTV involved in an accident must render aid to other persons involved in the accident and provide their name, address, and ATV or UTV information to any person injured in the accident and to any owner of property damaged in the accident.

***Emergency operation of ATVs and UTVs***

The bill provides that ATVs and UTVs may be operated on any roadway if the

**SENATE BILL 331****SECTION 1**

operation is for emergency purposes during a period of emergency declared by the governmental agency having jurisdiction over the roadway.

***Authorized emergency vehicles***

Under current law, “authorized emergency vehicle” is defined to include vehicles operated by various entities, such as law enforcement officers, fire departments, conservation wardens, and ambulance services. The bill expands the definition of “authorized emergency vehicle” to include ATVs, UTVs, and snowmobiles operated by these same entities and to include OHMs operated by law enforcement officers and conservation wardens.

***Patrol vehicles***

The bill creates definitions for “patrol all-terrain vehicle,” “patrol utility terrain vehicle,” “patrol off-highway motorcycle,” and “patrol snowmobile,” which are ATVs, UTVs, OHMs, and snowmobiles that are owned or leased by a city, village, town, county, state agency, federal agency, federally recognized American Indian tribe, or public safety corporation, used for law enforcement, fire fighting, or emergency medical response, and equipped with required sirens and lights. The bill exempts patrol ATVs, UTVs, OHMs, and snowmobiles from certain operation limitations, such as speed and proximity to highways while responding to emergencies or violations of the law, subject to specified use of sirens and lights.

***Revision to highway maintenance manual***

Under current law, no state trunk highway or connecting highway may be designated as an ATV route without Department of Transportation approval. DOT standards for ATV route approval are detailed in DOT’s Highway Maintenance Manual (HMM), which includes policies, technical information, administrative direction, and operational information for administration of DOT’s highway maintenance program. The HMM currently provides that requests for ATV routes or trails to use short segments of state trunk highways for the purpose of connecting to businesses may not be approved. The bill requires DOT to revise the HMM to remove these provisions.

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***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***

1           **SECTION 1.** 23.33 (1) (dr) of the statutes is created to read:

2           23.33 (1) (dr) “Bridge” means any structure constructed in or over a navigable  
3           waterway to provide a walkway or roadway for pedestrians, animals, or vehicles.  
4           “Bridge” includes pipe arches and culverts.

5           **SECTION 2.** 23.33 (1) (fb) of the statutes is created to read:

**SENATE BILL 331****SECTION 2**

1           23.33 (1) (fb) “Culvert” means a structure that allows water to flow under a  
2 road, trail, or other obstruction.

3           **SECTION 3.** 23.33 (1) (fc) of the statutes is created to read:

4           23.33 (1) (fc) “Dune buggy” means a motor driven device originally  
5 manufactured with, or modified to have, an open-frame construction, seats in which  
6 occupants sit close to the ground, and off-road tires designed for travel in sand.

7           **SECTION 4.** 23.33 (1) (iq) of the statutes is created to read:

8           23.33 (1) (iq) “Navigable waterway” means any body of water with a defined  
9 bed and bank that is capable of floating the lightest boat or skiff used for recreation  
10 or any other purpose on a regularly recurring basis.

11          **SECTION 5.** 23.33 (1) (ja) of the statutes is renumbered 23.33 (1) (ji).

12          **SECTION 6.** 23.33 (1) (jb) of the statutes is created to read:

13          23.33 (1) (jb) “Patrol all-terrain vehicle” means an all-terrain vehicle that is  
14 owned or leased by a city, village, town, county, state agency, federal agency,  
15 federally recognized American Indian tribe, or public safety corporation, used for  
16 law enforcement, fire fighting, or emergency medical response, and equipped with a  
17 siren and one or more flashing, oscillating, or rotating red lights, or red and white  
18 lights or, if the all-terrain vehicle is operated by a law enforcement officer, a blue  
19 light or a blue and white light, and a red light or a red and white light, all of which  
20 are flashing, oscillating, or rotating.

21          **SECTION 7.** 23.33 (1) (jc) of the statutes is renumbered 23.33 (1) (jj).

22          **SECTION 8.** 23.33 (1) (jd) of the statutes is renumbered 23.33 (1) (jk).

23          **SECTION 9.** 23.33 (1) (je) of the statutes is renumbered 23.33 (1) (jL).

24          **SECTION 10.** 23.33 (1) (jh) of the statutes is created to read:

**SENATE BILL 331****SECTION 10**

1           23.33 (1) (jh) “Patrol utility terrain vehicle” means a utility terrain vehicle  
2           that is owned or leased by a city, village, town, county, state agency, federal agency,  
3           federally recognized American Indian tribe, or public safety corporation, used for  
4           law enforcement, fire fighting, or emergency medical response, and equipped with a  
5           siren and one or more flashing, oscillating, or rotating red lights, or red and white  
6           lights or, if the utility terrain vehicle is operated by a law enforcement officer, a blue  
7           light or a blue and white light, and a red light or a red and white light, all of which  
8           are flashing, oscillating, or rotating.

9           **SECTION 11.** 23.33 (1) (ng) 1. e. of the statutes is amended to read:

10          23.33 (1) (ng) 1. e. ~~A Two tail light lights.~~

11          **SECTION 12.** 23.33 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

12          23.33 (3) (a) In any careless ~~way, reckless, or negligent manner~~ so as to  
13          ~~endanger~~ impair the life, person, or property of another.

14          **SECTION 13.** 23.33 (4) (d) 3. a. of the statutes is amended to read:

15          23.33 (4) (d) 3. a. To cross a bridge, culvert, or railroad right-of-way. The  
16          crossing of a bridge, culvert, or railroad right-of-way is not authorized if the  
17          roadway is officially closed to all-terrain vehicle or utility terrain vehicle traffic,  
18          except as provided in subd. 3. b. The crossing is authorized only if the crossing is  
19          done in the most direct manner practicable, if the crossing is made at a place where  
20          no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing, and if the operator stops the  
21          vehicle prior to ~~the crossing~~ entering the roadway and yields the right-of-way to  
22          other vehicles, pedestrians, electric scooters, and electric personal assistive  
23          mobility devices using the roadway.

24          **SECTION 14.** 23.33 (4) (d) 3. b. of the statutes is amended to read:

**SENATE BILL 331****SECTION 14**

1           23.33 (4) (d) 3. b. A person may operate an all-terrain vehicle or utility terrain  
2 vehicle on the roadway or shoulder of any highway to cross a bridge ~~that is 1,000 feet~~  
3 ~~in length or less, culvert, or railroad right-of-way~~ if the operation is in compliance  
4 with a county ordinance adopted under sub. (11) (am) 3. that applies to that bridge,  
5 culvert, or railroad right-of-way and a city, village, or town ordinance adopted under  
6 sub. (11) (am) 3. that applies to that bridge, culvert, or railroad right-of-way.

7           **SECTION 15.** 23.33 (4) (d) 8. of the statutes is created to read:

8           23.33 (4) (d) 8. On any roadway if the operation is for emergency purposes  
9 during a period of emergency declared by the governmental agency having  
10 jurisdiction over the roadway.

11          **SECTION 16.** 23.33 (6) (a) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

12          23.33 (6) (a) No person may operate an all-terrain vehicle unless it is equipped  
13 with a headlamp and tail lamp and the required lamps are lighted. No person may  
14 operate a utility terrain vehicle unless it is equipped with 2 headlamps and 2 tail  
15 lamps and the required lamps are lighted.

16          **SECTION 17.** 23.33 (6) (ar) of the statutes is created to read:

17          23.33 (6) (ar) Headlamps, brake lights, and tail lamps on an all-terrain  
18 vehicle and on a utility terrain vehicle shall be maintained in working condition at  
19 all times.

20          **SECTION 18.** 23.33 (6) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

21          23.33 (6) (b) The headlamp on an all-terrain vehicle ~~or~~ and the headlamps on  
22 a utility terrain vehicle is are required to display a white light of sufficient  
23 illuminating power to reveal any person, vehicle or substantial object at a distance  
24 of at least 200 feet ahead of the all-terrain vehicle or utility terrain vehicle.

**SENATE BILL 331****SECTION 19**

1           **SECTION 19.** 23.33 (6) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           23.33 (6) (c) The tail lamp on an all-terrain vehicle ~~or~~ and the tail lamps on a  
3 utility terrain vehicle ~~is~~ are required to display a red light plainly visible during  
4 hours of darkness from a distance of 500 feet to the rear.

5           **SECTION 20.** 23.33 (6) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

6           23.33 (6) (d) Every all-terrain vehicle and utility terrain vehicle is required to  
7 be equipped with at least one functioning brake operated either by hand or by foot  
8 and a brake light.

9           **SECTION 21.** 23.33 (6) (f) of the statutes is amended to read:

10          23.33 (6) (f) An all-terrain vehicle or utility terrain vehicle may not be  
11 ~~modified so that~~ operated if its maximum width exceeds the width allowed for a  
12 utility terrain vehicle under sub. (1) (ng) 1. h. or 2. b. or the width allowed for an all-  
13 terrain vehicle under s. 340.01 (2g). This paragraph does not apply to the operation  
14 of an all-terrain vehicle or utility terrain vehicle on private property.

15          **SECTION 22.** 23.33 (7m) of the statutes is created to read:

16          23.33 (7m) DUTY TO RENDER AID. The operator of an all-terrain vehicle or a  
17 utility terrain vehicle involved in an accident shall, to the extent that they are  
18 capable, render assistance as is practicable and necessary to other persons involved  
19 in the accident to save them from or minimize any danger caused by the accident.  
20 The operator of the all-terrain vehicle or utility terrain vehicle shall provide their  
21 name and address and identification of their all-terrain vehicle or utility terrain  
22 vehicle to any person injured in the accident and to the owner of any property  
23 damaged in the accident.

24          **SECTION 23.** 23.33 (11) (am) 3. (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

**SENATE BILL 331****SECTION 23**

1           23.33 (11) (am) 3. (intro.) A county, city, village, or town may enact an  
2 ordinance to authorize the operation of all-terrain vehicles and utility terrain  
3 vehicles on a highway to cross a culvert or railroad right-of-way or a bridge that is  
4 not part of the national system of interstate and defense highways, ~~that is 1,000 feet~~  
5 ~~in length or less~~, and that is located within the territorial boundaries of the county,  
6 city, village, or town regardless of whether the county, city, village, or town has  
7 jurisdiction over the highway. Any such ordinance shall require a person crossing a  
8 culvert, railroad right-of-way, or bridge to do all of the following:

9           **SECTION 24.** 23.33 (11) (am) 3. a. of the statutes is amended to read:

10           23.33 (11) (am) 3. a. Cross the culvert, railroad right-of-way, or bridge in the  
11 most direct manner practicable and at a place where no obstruction prevents a  
12 quick and safe crossing.

13           **SECTION 25.** 23.33 (11) (am) 3. c. of the statutes is amended to read:

14           23.33 (11) (am) 3. c. Stop the vehicle prior to ~~the crossing~~ entering the  
15 roadway.

16           **SECTION 26.** 23.33 (11) (am) 3. e. of the statutes is amended to read:

17           23.33 (11) (am) 3. e. Exit the highway as quickly and safely as practicable  
18 after crossing the culvert, railroad right-of-way, or bridge.

19           **SECTION 27.** 23.33 (11m) of the statutes is renumbered 23.33 (11m) (a) and  
20 amended to read:

21           23.33 (11m) (a) Subsections (3) (em), (6) (cd), (ch), (cp), and (i), and (6r) do not  
22 apply to the operator of an all-terrain vehicle or utility terrain vehicle owned or  
23 leased by a city, village, town, county, state agency, federal agency, federally  
24 recognized American Indian tribe, public safety corporation, or public utility while

**SENATE BILL 331****SECTION 27**

1 the operator is engaged in an emergency or in the pursuit of an actual or suspected  
2 violation of the law.

3 **SECTION 28.** 23.33 (11m) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

4 23.33 (11m) (b) 1. Subject to subds. 2. to 5., sub. (3) (g), (gm), (h), and (ht) do  
5 not apply to the operator of a patrol all-terrain vehicle or patrol utility terrain  
6 vehicle when responding to an emergency call, engaged in an emergency, or in the  
7 pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law.

8 2. Except as provided in subd. 3., subd. 1. applies only if the operator of a  
9 patrol all-terrain vehicle or patrol utility terrain vehicle is giving an audible signal  
10 by means of a siren and a visual signal by means of at least one flashing, oscillating,  
11 or rotating red light or, if the patrol all-terrain vehicle or patrol utility terrain  
12 vehicle is being operated by a law enforcement officer, a blue light and a red light,  
13 both of which are flashing, oscillating, or rotating.

14 3. A law enforcement officer operating a patrol all-terrain vehicle or patrol  
15 utility terrain vehicle may exceed a speed limit without giving audible or visual  
16 signals if the officer is obtaining evidence of a speed violation or responding to what  
17 the officer reasonably believes is a felony in progress and the officer reasonably  
18 believes any of the following:

19 a. Knowledge of the officer's presence may endanger the safety of a victim or  
20 other person.

21 b. Knowledge of the officer's presence may cause the suspected violator to  
22 evade apprehension.

23 c. Knowledge of the officer's presence may cause the suspected violator to

**SENATE BILL 331****SECTION 28**

1 destroy evidence of a suspected felony or may otherwise result in the loss of  
2 evidence of a suspected felony.

3 d. Knowledge of the officer's presence may cause the suspected violator to  
4 cease the commission of a suspected felony before the officer obtains sufficient  
5 evidence to establish grounds for arrest.

6 4. The operator of a patrol all-terrain vehicle or patrol utility terrain vehicle  
7 may proceed past a red light, stop signal, or stop sign but only after slowing down as  
8 necessary for safe operation.

9 5. The privileges granted to the operator of a patrol all-terrain vehicle or  
10 patrol utility terrain vehicle under this paragraph do not relieve the operator from  
11 the duty to drive or ride with due regard under the circumstances for the safety of  
12 all persons or provide immunity from liability for the consequences of the operator's  
13 reckless disregard for the safety of others.

14 **SECTION 29.** 23.33 (13) (g) of the statutes is created to read:

15 23.33 (13) (g) *Penalties related to operation causing impairment of property.*

16 In addition to any other penalty, for a violation of sub. (3) (a) that results in  
17 impairment of the property of another, the court may hold the defendant liable for  
18 treble damages, to be recovered by the person responsible for maintenance of the  
19 property, and may order the defendant to restore, rebuild, repair, or replace the  
20 property.

21 **SECTION 30.** 23.335 (1) (zde) of the statutes is created to read:

22 23.335 (1) (zde) "Patrol off-highway motorcycle" means an off-highway  
23 motorcycle that is owned or leased by a city, village, town, county, state agency,

**SENATE BILL 331****SECTION 30**

1 federal agency, federally recognized American Indian tribe, or public safety  
2 corporation, used for law enforcement, fire fighting, or emergency medical response,  
3 and equipped with a siren and one or more flashing, oscillating, or rotating red  
4 lights, or red and white lights or, if the off-highway motorcycle is operated by a law  
5 enforcement officer, a blue light or a blue and white light, and a red light or a red  
6 and white light, all of which are flashing, oscillating, or rotating.

7 **SECTION 31.** 23.335 (9) (d) of the statutes is created to read:

8 23.335 (9) (d) 1. Subject to subds. 2. to 5., par. (a) 6., 7., and 8. do not apply to  
9 the operator of a patrol off-highway motorcycle when responding to an emergency  
10 call, engaged in an emergency, or in the pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of  
11 the law.

12 2. Except as provided in subd. 3., subd. 1. applies only if the operator of a  
13 patrol off-highway motorcycle is giving an audible signal by means of a siren and a  
14 visual signal by means of at least one flashing, oscillating, or rotating red light or, if  
15 the patrol off-highway motorcycle is being operated by a law enforcement officer, a  
16 blue light and a red light, both of which are flashing, oscillating, or rotating.

17 3. A law enforcement officer operating a patrol off-highway motorcycle may  
18 exceed a speed limit without giving audible or visual signals if the officer is  
19 obtaining evidence of a speed violation or responding to what the officer reasonably  
20 believes is a felony in progress and the officer reasonably believes any of the  
21 following:

22 a. Knowledge of the officer's presence may endanger the safety of a victim or  
23 other person.

**SENATE BILL 331****SECTION 31**

1           b. Knowledge of the officer's presence may cause the suspected violator to  
2 evade apprehension.

3           c. Knowledge of the officer's presence may cause the suspected violator to  
4 destroy evidence of a suspected felony or may otherwise result in the loss of  
5 evidence of a suspected felony.

6           d. Knowledge of the officer's presence may cause the suspected violator to  
7 cease the commission of a suspected felony before the officer obtains sufficient  
8 evidence to establish grounds for arrest.

9           4. The operator of a patrol off-highway motorcycle may proceed past a red  
10 light, stop signal, or stop sign but only after slowing down as necessary for safe  
11 operation.

12           5. The privileges granted to the operator of a patrol off-highway motorcycle  
13 under this paragraph do not relieve the operator from the duty to drive or ride with  
14 due regard under the circumstances for the safety of all persons or provide  
15 immunity from liability for the consequences of the operator's reckless disregard for  
16 the safety of others.

17           **SECTION 32.** 340.01 (2g) of the statutes is amended to read:

18           340.01 (2g) "All-terrain vehicle" means a commercially designed and  
19 manufactured motor-driven device that has a weight, without fluids, of 900 pounds  
20 or less, has a width of not more than 50 inches as measured laterally between the  
21 outermost wheel rim on each side of the vehicle, exclusive of tires, mirrors, and  
22 accessories that are not essential to the vehicle's basic operation, is equipped with a  
23 seat designed to be straddled by the operator, a headlight, tail lamp, and brake  
24 light, and travels on 3 or more tires.

**SENATE BILL 331****SECTION 33**

1           **SECTION 33.** 340.01 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           340.01 (3) (a) Police vehicles, whether publicly or privately owned, including  
3           all-terrain vehicles, utility terrain vehicles, off-highway motorcycles, snowmobiles,  
4           and bicycles being operated by law enforcement officers.

5           **SECTION 34.** 340.01 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

6           340.01 (3) (b) Conservation wardens' vehicles, including all-terrain vehicles,  
7           utility terrain vehicles, off-highway motorcycles, and snowmobiles, foresters'  
8           trucks, or vehicles used by commission wardens, whether publicly or privately  
9           owned.

10          **SECTION 35.** 340.01 (3) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

11          340.01 (3) (c) Vehicles, including all-terrain vehicles, utility terrain vehicles,  
12          and snowmobiles, of a fire department or fire patrol.

13          **SECTION 36.** 340.01 (3) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

14          340.01 (3) (d) Privately owned motor vehicles, including all-terrain vehicles,  
15          utility terrain vehicles, and snowmobiles, being used by deputy state fire marshals  
16          or by personnel of a full-time or part-time fire department or by members of a  
17          volunteer fire department while en route to a fire or on an emergency call pursuant  
18          to orders of their chief or other commanding officer.

19          **SECTION 37.** 340.01 (3) (dg) of the statutes is amended to read:

20          340.01 (3) (dg) Privately owned motor vehicles, including all-terrain vehicles,  
21          utility terrain vehicles, and snowmobiles, being used by an organ procurement  
22          organization, or by any person under an agreement with an organ procurement  
23          organization, to transport organs for human transplantation or to transport

**SENATE BILL 331****SECTION 37**

1 medical personnel for the purpose of performing human organ harvesting or  
2 transplantation immediately after the transportation.

3 **SECTION 38.** 340.01 (3) (dh) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 340.01 (3) (dh) Privately owned motor vehicles, including all-terrain vehicles,  
5 utility terrain vehicles, and snowmobiles, being operated in the course of a business  
6 and being used, in response to an emergency call from a treating physician or his or  
7 her designee declaring the transportation to be an emergency, to transport medical  
8 devices or equipment to a hospital or ambulatory surgery center, or to pick up  
9 medical devices or equipment for immediate transportation to a hospital or  
10 ambulatory surgery center, if the medical devices or equipment are to be used for  
11 human implantation or for urgent medical treatment immediately after the  
12 transportation.

13 **SECTION 39.** 340.01 (3) (dm) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 340.01 (3) (dm) (intro.) Privately owned motor vehicles, including all-terrain  
15 vehicles, utility terrain vehicles, and snowmobiles, that are all of the following:

16 **SECTION 40.** 340.01 (37r) of the statutes is created to read:

17 340.01 (37r) “Off-highway motorcycle” has the meaning given in s. 23.335 (1)  
18 (q).

19 **SECTION 41.** 340.01 (73e) of the statutes is created to read:

20 340.01 (73e) “Utility terrain vehicle” has the meaning given in s. 23.33 (1)  
21 (ng).

22 **SECTION 42.** 340.01 (74) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 340.01 (74) “Vehicle” means every device in, upon, or by which any person or  
24 property is or may be transported or drawn upon a highway, except railroad trains.

**SENATE BILL 331****SECTION 42**

1 A snowmobile, an all-terrain vehicle, a utility terrain vehicle, a personal delivery  
2 device, an electric scooter, and an electric personal assistive mobility device shall  
3 not be considered a vehicle except for purposes made specifically applicable by  
4 statute.

5 **SECTION 43.** 350.01 (10a) of the statutes is created to read:

6 350.01 (10a) "Patrol snowmobile" means a snowmobile that is owned or  
7 leased by a city, village, town, county, state agency, federal agency, federally  
8 recognized American Indian tribe, or public safety corporation, used for law  
9 enforcement, fire fighting, or emergency medical response, and equipped with a  
10 siren and one or more flashing, oscillating, or rotating red lights, or red and white  
11 lights or, if the snowmobile is operated by a law enforcement officer, a blue light or  
12 a blue and white light, and a red light or a red and white light, all of which are  
13 flashing, oscillating, or rotating.

14 **SECTION 44.** 350.10 (4) of the statutes is created to read:

15 350.10 (4) (a) Subject to pars. (b) to (e), sub. (1) (c), (g), (gm), and (i) do not  
16 apply to the operator of a patrol snowmobile when responding to an emergency call,  
17 engaged in an emergency, or in the pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the  
18 law.

19 (b) Except as provided in par. (c), par. (a) applies only if the operator of a patrol  
20 snowmobile is giving an audible signal by means of a siren and a visual signal by  
21 means of at least one flashing, oscillating, or rotating red light or, if the patrol  
22 snowmobile is being operated by a law enforcement officer, a blue light and a red  
23 light, both of which are flashing, oscillating, or rotating.

**SENATE BILL 331****SECTION 44**

1 (c) A law enforcement officer operating a patrol snowmobile may exceed a  
2 speed limit without giving audible or visual signals if the officer is obtaining  
3 evidence of a speed violation or responding to what the officer reasonably believes is  
4 a felony in progress and the officer reasonably believes any of the following:

5 1. Knowledge of the officer's presence may endanger the safety of a victim or  
6 other person.

7 2. Knowledge of the officer's presence may cause the suspected violator to  
8 evade apprehension.

9 3. Knowledge of the officer's presence may cause the suspected violator to  
10 destroy evidence of a suspected felony or may otherwise result in the loss of  
11 evidence of a suspected felony.

12 4. Knowledge of the officer's presence may cause the suspected violator to  
13 cease the commission of a suspected felony before the officer obtains sufficient  
14 evidence to establish grounds for arrest.

15 (d) The operator of a patrol snowmobile may proceed past a red light, stop  
16 signal, or stop sign but only after slowing down as necessary for safe operation.

17 (e) The privileges granted to the operator of a patrol snowmobile under this  
18 paragraph do not relieve the operator from the duty to drive or ride with due regard  
19 under the circumstances for the safety of all persons or provide immunity from  
20 liability for the consequences of the operator's reckless disregard for the safety of  
21 others.

**SECTION 45. Nonstatutory provisions.**

22 (1) The department of transportation shall revise the department's highway  
23

**SENATE BILL 331**

**SECTION 45**

1 maintenance manual to eliminate the provisions that an all-terrain vehicle route or  
2 trail request be disallowed for a short state trunk highway segment to connect a  
3 local route, trail, or crossing to a gas station, grocery store, bar, or other business.

4 (END)