



# FINAL REPORT

## ATVs and ORVs on Highways Interim Study Committee

December 30, 2025

---

### MEMBERS

Senator Dan Zumbach, Co-chairperson  
Senator Thomas Townsend  
Senator Scott Webster

Representative Megan Jones, Co-chairperson  
Representative Daniel Gosa  
Representative Brent Siegrist

LSA CONTACTS: Organizational staffing provided by: Tyler Heeren, Legal Counsel, 515.725.0480; Minutes prepared by: Natalie Sherman, Legal Counsel, 515.725.2299

---

### CONTENTS

- I. Authorization and Appointment
- II. December 30, 2025, Meeting
- III. Materials Filed with the Legislative Services Agency



## ATVs and ORVs on Highways Interim Study Committee

---

### **I. Authorization and Appointment**

The All-Terrain Vehicles and Off-Road Utility Vehicles on Highways Interim Study Committee (committee) was established by the Legislative Council pursuant to 2025 Iowa Acts, ch. 159. The committee was charged to “examine policy matters and recommend statutory changes relating to the operation of all-terrain vehicles and off-road utility vehicles on highways.”

### **II. December 30, 2025, Meeting**

Members of the committee elected, by voice vote, Senator Zumbach and Representative Jones as permanent co-chairpersons. Members of the committee adopted, by voice vote, the proposed rules for the committee that had been previously distributed.

Following opening remarks by the co-chairpersons, the departments of Transportation, Public Safety, and Natural Resources presented information to the committee.

Mr. Larry Grant, State Safety Planner, Traffic and Safety Bureau, presented on behalf of the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT). Mr. Grant presented information on the history of total fatalities related to the operation of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and off-road utility vehicles (ORVs) on highways, and provided statistics to the committee.

Lieutenant Wade Major, Iowa State Patrol, presented on behalf of the Iowa Department of Public Safety (DPS). Lieutenant Major noted that the laws regulating the use of ATVs and ORVs on highways has led to some confusion for both law enforcement officers enforcing the laws and members of the public responsible for operating ATVs and ORVs lawfully. Lieutenant Major attributed issues relating to confusion regarding ATV and ORV use to the fact that provisions regulating use appear in different Iowa Code chapters. Lieutenant Major recommended combining and updating regulations found in Iowa Code sections 321.234A and 321I.10. Lieutenant Major advised that consolidating all



provisions relating to on-highway operation in Iowa Code section 321.234A would help improve general understanding of the regulations.

Ms. Jessica Flatt, Off-Highway Vehicles Program Manager, and Mr. Craig Cutts, Law Enforcement Bureau Chief, presented on behalf of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Ms. Flatt explained that DNR is tasked with the oversight of a variety of ATV-related and ORV-related issues, including registering ATVs and ORVs for both on-highway and off-highway use, managing the Special All-Terrain Vehicle Fund, producing educational materials and safety courses, and administering the grant program to maintain designated off-highway vehicle areas in Iowa.

Committee members discussed particular questions and concerns with Mr. Grant, Lieutenant Major, Ms. Flatt, and Mr. Cutts. Details were provided regarding questions about on-highway fatalities attributable to ATV use but not resulting directly from the operation of an ATV, seatbelt requirements, the collection of registration fees and the administration of the related grant program, and enforcement responsibilities for various agencies.

The committee made no specific recommendations nor did the committee take any formal action.

### **III. Materials Filed with the Legislative Services Agency**

Materials were distributed at or in connection with the meeting and are filed with the Legislative Services Agency (LSA). The materials may be accessed from the “Committee Documents” link on the committee’s Internet site accessible at the following address:

[www.legis.iowa.gov/committees/committee?ga=90&session=1&groupID=39587](http://www.legis.iowa.gov/committees/committee?ga=90&session=1&groupID=39587)

1. The DOT submitted “utility task vehicle all terrain vehicle off road vehicle safety data” information.
2. The DNR submitted “off-highway vehicle program overview” information.
3. Committee rules (adopted).