

House Study Bill 576 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON JENEARY)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the operation of all-terrain and off-road
2 utility vehicles on state park road systems.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321I.10, Code 2024, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 2A. A registered all-terrain vehicle or
4 off-road utility vehicle may be operated on state park road
5 systems, and may be operated anywhere within the boundaries of
6 a state park that a motor vehicle required to be registered
7 under chapter 321 is authorized to operate.

8 EXPLANATION

9 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
10 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

11 Current law generally prohibits the operation of all-
12 terrain vehicles (ATVs) and off-road utility vehicles (UTVs)
13 on roadways and highways unless otherwise authorized by
14 law. Registered ATVs and UTVs are allowed to operate on
15 undivided two-lane primary highways that are not part of the
16 interstate road system between specified locations, on unpaved
17 secondary roads, on certain paved, undivided secondary roads
18 between specified locations, or on roads or streets otherwise
19 authorized by the county board of supervisors or a city.

20 This bill authorizes registered ATVs and UTVs to be operated
21 on state park road systems, and anywhere within the boundaries
22 of a state park that a motor vehicle required to be registered
23 under Code chapter 321 (motor vehicles and law of the road) is
24 authorized to operate. "State park road system" means those
25 roads and streets wholly within the boundaries of state lands
26 operated as parks (Code section 306.3).

27 A person who violates Code section 321I.10 commits a simple
28 misdemeanor punishable by a scheduled fine of \$70.

29 Pursuant to Code section 461A.36, the maximum speed limit
30 of all vehicles on state park roads and highways is 35 miles
31 per hour, unless a lower speed limit is posted. All driving
32 must be confined to designated roadways. A violation of this
33 provision is a simple misdemeanor punishable by a scheduled
34 fine under Code section 805.8A(5). The amount of the fine is
35 based on the vehicle's speed in excess of the applicable limit.