

CHAPTER 1158

SNOWMOBILES

H. F. 77

AN ACT relating to snowmobiles.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

1 SECTION 1.

2 1. "Snowmobile" means any self-propelled vehicle weighing less
3 than one thousand pounds which utilizes wheels with pneumatic tires
4 and is designed to operate on land or water or is equipped with sled-
5 type runners or skis, an endless belt-type tread, or any combination
6 thereof and is designed for travel upon snow, land, or ice.

7 2. "Commission" means the state conservation commission.

1 SEC. 2. The commission is hereby vested with the power to adopt
2 rules and regulations for the:

3 1. Registration of snowmobiles,

4 2. Use of snowmobiles insofar as game and fish resources are af-
5 fected, and

6 3. Use of snowmobiles on public lands under the jurisdiction of the
7 commission.

8 The commissioner of public safety may adopt rules and regulations
9 not inconsistent herewith regulating the use of snowmobiles on streets
10 and highways, except that cities and towns may regulate their use on
11 streets under the jurisdiction of cities and towns within their respec-
12 tive corporate limits.

1 SEC. 3. Every snowmobile used on public streets, highways, land,
2 or ice of this state shall be currently registered and numbered. No
3 person shall operate, maintain, or give permission for the operation
4 or maintenance of any such snowmobile on such land or ice unless the
5 snowmobile is numbered in accordance with this Act, or in accordance
6 with applicable federal laws, or in accordance with an approved num-
7 bering system of another state, and unless the identifying number set
8 forth in the registration is displayed on each side of the forward half
9 of such snowmobile.

1 SEC. 4. The owner of each snowmobile required to be numbered
2 shall register it every year with the county recorder of the county in
3 which the owner resides or, if the owner is a nonresident, he shall
4 register it in the county in which such snowmobile is principally used.
5 The commission shall have supervisory responsibility over the regis-
6 tration of all snowmobiles and shall provide each county recorder with
7 registration forms and certificates and shall allocate identification
8 numbers to each county.

9 The owner of such snowmobile shall file an application for registra-
10 tion with the appropriate county recorder on forms provided by the
11 commission. The application shall be completed and signed by the
12 owner of the snowmobile and shall be accompanied by a fee of six dol-
13 lars and a writing fee of fifty cents. Proof of payment of Iowa sales
14 or use tax must accompany all applications for registration. Upon
15 receipt of the application in approved form accompanied by the re-
16 quired fees, the county recorder shall enter the same upon his records

17 and shall issue to the applicant a pocket-size registration certificate.
18 The certificate shall be executed in triplicate, one copy to be delivered
19 to the owner, one copy to the commission, and one copy to be retained
20 on file by the county recorder. The registration certificate shall bear
21 the number awarded to such snowmobile and the name and address of
22 the owner. The registration certificate shall be carried either in the
23 snowmobile or on the person of the operator of such machine when
24 in use.

1 SEC. 5. A plate or decal containing the identification numbers or
2 letters shall be furnished by the conservation commission.

3 The owner shall cause the identification number to be attached to
4 each side of the forward half of the snowmobile in such manner as
5 may be prescribed by the rules and regulations of the commission and
6 shall be maintained in legible condition at all times.

1 SEC. 6. Every registration certificate and number issued shall
2 expire at midnight April thirtieth, unless sooner terminated or dis-
3 continued in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. After
4 the first day of January each year, any unregistered snowmobile and
5 renewals of registration may be so registered for the subsequent
6 year beginning May first.

7 After the first day of January any unregistered snowmobile may be
8 registered for the remainder of the current registration period and
9 for the subsequent registration period in one transaction. The fee
10 shall be three dollars for the remainder of the current period, in ad-
11 dition to the registration fee of six dollars for the subsequent year
12 beginning May first, and a writing fee of fifty cents. Registration
13 certificates and numbers may be renewed upon application of the
14 owner in the same manner as provided for in securing the original
15 registration.

16 If the application for registration for the subsequent year is not
17 made before May first of each year, the applicant shall be charged a
18 penalty of one dollar for each six month's delinquency, or any portion
19 thereof.

20 Whenever any person, after registering a snowmobile, moves from
21 the address shown on the registration certificate, he shall, within ten
22 days, notify the county recorder in writing of such fact.

23 Registrations may be transferred when a snowmobile is sold by
24 filing an application for such transfer with the county recorder of the
25 county wherein the snowmobile is registered. The county recorder
26 shall collect a transfer fee of one dollar and an additional twenty-five
27 cents as a writing fee.

28 Duplicate registrations may be issued upon application therefor and
29 the payment of the same fees collected for the transfer of registra-
30 tions.

1 SEC. 7. All fees collected from the registration of snowmobiles
2 shall be forwarded by the county recorder to the commission for re-
3 mission to the treasurer of state, who shall place such money in the
4 state conservation fund. The fees collected shall be appropriated by
5 the general assembly to the commission solely for their use.

1 SEC. 8. No registration shall be required for the following de-
2 scribed snowmobiles:

- 3 1. Snowmobiles owned and used by the United States, another state,
4 or a political subdivision thereof.
- 5 2. Snowmobiles registered in a country other than the United
6 States temporarily used within this state.
- 7 3. Snowmobiles covered by a valid license of another state and
8 which have not been within this state for more than twenty consecu-
9 tive days.
- 10 4. Snowmobiles not registered or licensed in another state or coun-
11 try being used in this state during an organized race or exhibition
12 and not remaining in the state for a period of more than ten days.

1 SEC. 9. No person shall operate a snowmobile upon roadways or
2 highways, as defined in section three hundred twenty-one point one
3 (321.1) of the Code, except as provided in this Act.

4 1. A snowmobile shall not be operated at any time within the right
5 of way of any interstate highway or freeway within this state.

6 2. A snowmobile may make a direct crossing of a street or highway
7 provided:

8 a. The crossing is made at an angle of approximately ninety de-
9 grees to the direction of the highway and at a place where no obstruc-
10 tion prevents a quick and safe crossing; and

11 b. The snowmobile is brought to a complete stop before crossing the
12 shoulder or main traveled way of the highway; and

13 c. The driver yields the right of way to all oncoming traffic which
14 constitutes an immediate hazard; and

15 d. In crossing a divided highway, the crossing is made only at an
16 intersection of such highway with another public street or highway.

17 3. A registered snowmobile shall not be operated on public high-
18 ways:

19 a. On the roadway portion of a highway and adjacent shoulder, or
20 at least five feet on either side of the roadway, except as provided in
21 subsection four (4) of this section, and

22 b. On limited access highways and approaches, and

23 c. For racing any moving object, and

24 d. Abreast with one or more other snowmobiles on a city or town
25 highway.

26 4. A registered snowmobile may be operated under the following
27 conditions:

28 a. Upon city or town highways which have not been plowed during
29 the snow season or on such highways as designated by the governing
30 body of a municipality.

31 b. On that portion of county roads that have not been plowed during
32 the snow season and not maintained or utilized for the operation of
33 conventional motor vehicles.

34 c. On highways in an emergency during the period of time when and
35 at locations where snow upon the roadway renders travel by conven-
36 tional motor vehicles impractical.

37 5. The headlight and tail light shall be lighted during the operation
38 on a public highway at any time from sunset to sunrise, and at such
39 other times when conditions such as fog, snow, sleet, or rain provide
40 insufficient lighting to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles
41 at a distance of five hundred feet ahead.

42 6. A snowmobile shall not be operated on or across a public high-
43 way by a person under sixteen years of age.

1 SEC. 10. Whenever any snowmobile is involved in an accident re-
2 sulting in injury or death to anyone or property damage amounting to
3 fifty dollars or more, either the operator or someone acting for him
4 shall immediately notify the county sheriff or another law enforcement
5 agency in the state. The operator shall file with the commission a
6 report of the accident, within forty-eight hours, containing such in-
7 formation as the commission may require.

1 SEC. 11. A snowmobile shall not be operated without suitable and
2 effective muffling devices except when being operated or used in an
3 organized race or exhibition.

1 SEC. 12. Every snowmobile shall be equipped with at least one
2 head lamp and one tail lamp, and with brakes which conform to stand-
3 ards prescribed by the commissioner of public safety.

1 SEC. 13. It shall be unlawful for any person to drive or operate
2 any snowmobile:

3 1. At a rate of speed greater than reasonable or proper under all
4 existing circumstances.

5 2. In a careless, reckless, or negligent manner so as to endanger
6 the person or property of another or to cause injury or damage there-
7 to.

8 3. While under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotics or
9 habit-forming drugs.

10 4. Without a lighted headlight and tail light when required for
11 safety.

12 5. In any tree nursery or planting in a manner which damages or
13 destroys growing stock.

14 6. With any firearms in the vehicle, except in the possession of a
15 peace officer.

1 SEC. 14. Any person who shall violate any provision of this Act
2 or any regulation of the commission or commissioner of public safety
3 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished by a fine of not more
4 than one hundred dollars, or by imprisonment for not more than
5 ninety days.

Approved March 4, 1970.

CHAPTER 1159

MOTOR VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS

S. F. 594

AN ACT relating to fees charged for licenses of motor vehicle manufacturers, distribu-
tors, wholesalers, factory representatives, and distributor branch representatives.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

1 SECTION 1. Section three hundred twenty-two point twenty-nine
2 (322.29), Code 1966, is hereby amended as follows: