



HOUSE BILL 847: Off-Road Motorcycle Registration Eligibility.

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	House Transportation. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	April 30, 2025
Introduced by:	Rep. Scott	Prepared by:	Howard Marsilio
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition H847-CSBG-12		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *The Proposed Committee Substitute (PCS) to House Bill 847 would create a new classification of modified utility vehicles which would authorize the registration of certain motorcycles designed for off-road use and their highway operation.*

CURRENT LAW: Current law requires that a vehicle intended to be operated upon any highway of this State must be registered with the Division. Part of the registration application requires a description of the vehicle, which specifically requires a vehicle identification number. Given that vehicles designed and manufactured for off-road operation are not manufactured with equipment, including vehicle identification numbers, found on motor vehicles designed for on-road operation, current laws that relate to motor vehicle operation on the highway may not apply.

BILL ANALYSIS: The PCS would:

- Create a configuration of motor vehicle under the definition of modified utility vehicles, which includes a motor vehicle that is manufactured or upfitted by a licensed manufacturer, dealer, or person or business otherwise engaged in vehicle manufacturing or modification for off-road use with equipment required for motorcycles designed for on-highway use, except a vehicle identification number, and (i) has an engine displacement of 124cc or more, (ii) has a maximum speed capability of 40 miles per hour or greater, (iii) has a saddle for the use of the rider and passengers, and (iv) is designed to travel on two wheels in contact with the ground.
- Authorize the assignment of a Division vehicle identification number for this modified utility vehicle classification and authorize its operation on streets and highways subject to the same requirements as other four wheeled modified utility vehicles, which would include a limitation to roadways posted as 55mph or less, insurance, and registration requirements. Given these motor vehicles are similar to motorcycles, certain licensure and other special provisions that relate to motorcycles will apply to their operation on streets and highways.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would become effective October 1, 2025.

Kara McCraw
Director



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Legislative Analysis
Division
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