

JAN 21 2026

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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO VEHICLES.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1 SECTION 1. Section 286-12, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending subsections (a) and (b) to read as follows:

3 " (a) All-terrain vehicles and utility-terrain vehicles may  
4 be operated on a street, as defined in section 291C-1; provided  
5 that the all-terrain vehicle or utility-terrain vehicle is:

6 (1) Used as farm equipment, or used by a city, county, or  
7 state worker while acting within the scope of that  
8 person's official duties;

9 (2) Operated by a person who holds a current [category  
10 ~~(3)~~] driver's license under section 286-102 [~~or a~~  
11 ~~commercial driver's license under part XIII~~];

12 (3) Driven on streets [~~that are no more than two lanes,~~  
13 or roads that are adjacent to farmland with posted  
14 speed limits of [~~no~~] not more than thirty-five miles  
15 per hour;

16 (4) Used to travel alongside or between properties zoned  
17 for agriculture[?] and used for agricultural activity



1                   purposes, or used by a city, county, or state worker  
2                   while acting within the scope of that person's  
3                   official duties to travel between properties under the  
4                   jurisdiction of the city, county, or State;

5               (5) Used in counties with populations of less than five  
6                   hundred thousand residents; and

7               (6) Driven on streets during daylight hours; provided  
8                   further that all-terrain vehicles may be driven on  
9                   streets during evening and night hours only if  
10                   equipped with headlights, tail lights, turn signals,  
11                   brake lights, and while displaying a slow moving  
12                   vehicle emblem; provided further that while in  
13                   operation, any operator and passenger of an  
14                   all-terrain vehicle or utility-terrain vehicle [~~shall~~]  
15                   may wear a safety helmet with a securely fastened chin  
16                   strap that meets the specifications and requirements  
17                   established by rules adopted by the director.

18               (b) For the purposes of this section:

19                   "All-terrain vehicle" means a motor vehicle that:

20               (1) Is designed for off-highway operation by a single  
21                   operator carrying no more than one passenger, if so



11 "Farm equipment" refers to any kind of machinery used on a  
12 farm to help with farming, including but not limited to a  
13 tractor, cultivator, plow, all-terrain vehicle, or  
14 utility-terrain vehicle.

15 "Utility-terrain vehicle" means a motor vehicle that:

16 (1) Is designed to be operated off highway;

17 (2) Is sixty inches or less in width;

18 (3) Has an unladen weight of one thousand three hundred

19 pounds or less;

20 (4) Is suspended on four to six tires;

21 (5) Has a steering wheel for steering control;



7 SECTION 2. Section 431:10C-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
8 is amended as follows:

9           1. By adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted  
10 and to read:

11        "All-terrain vehicle" has the same meaning as defined in  
12        chapter 286."

13           2. By amending the definition of "motor vehicle" to read:

14            ""Motor vehicle" means any vehicle of a type required to be

15            registered under chapter 286, including a trailer attached to

16            such a vehicle[~~r~~] and an all-terrain vehicle operating on a

17           street pursuant to section 286-12, but not including motorcycles

18            and motor scooters."

19 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
20 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
21 begun before its effective date.



1 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: Mark W. Rutledge



# S.B. NO. 2172

**Report Title:**

All-Terrain Vehicles; Highways; Drivers; Equipment; Agriculture

**Description:**

Allows an all-terrain vehicle to drive in the evening and night if they are equipped with headlights, tail lights, turn signals, and brake lights, and while displaying a slow moving vehicle emblem. Allows drivers of all-terrain vehicles to wear a safety helmet with a securely fastened chin strap, rather than require. Includes in the definition of "utility-terrain vehicle" a motor vehicle that accommodates one driver and one passenger sitting side-by-side, and up to six people in seat belts. Includes "all-terrain vehicle" in the definition of "motor vehicle" under the State's motor vehicle insurance law.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

