

Senate Engrossed

off-highway vehicles; education requirement

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-sixth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2024

# SENATE BILL 1567

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 4-251, 28-1171, 28-1174, 28-1179 AND 28-3151, ARIZONA  
REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO VEHICLES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 4-251, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:

4 4-251. Spirituuous liquor in motor vehicles; prohibitions;  
5 violation; classification; exceptions; definitions

6 A. It is unlawful for any person to:

7 1. Consume spirituuous liquor while operating or while within the  
8 passenger compartment of a motor vehicle that is located on any public  
9 highway or right-of-way of a public highway in this state.

10 2. Possess an open container of spirituuous liquor within the  
11 passenger compartment of a motor vehicle that is located on any public  
12 highway or right-of-way of a public highway in this state.

13 B. A person who violates subsection A of this section is guilty of  
14 a class 2 misdemeanor.

15 C. This section does not apply to:

16 1. A passenger in any bus, limousine, taxi or transportation  
17 network company vehicle as defined in section 28-9551 while the vehicle is  
18 being used to provide transportation network services as defined in  
19 section 28-9551.

20 2. A passenger in the living quarters of a motor home as defined in  
21 section 28-4301.

22 D. For the purposes of this section:

23 1. "Motor vehicle":

24 (a) Means ~~any vehicle that is driven or drawn by mechanical power~~  
25 ~~and that is designed primarily for use on public highways~~ A SELF-PROPELLED  
26 VEHICLE. ~~Motor vehicle~~

27 (b) Does not include a vehicle operated exclusively on rails OR  
28 WATER.

29 2. "Open container" means any bottle, can, jar, container dispensed  
30 pursuant to section 4-244, paragraph 32, subdivision (c) or other  
31 receptacle that contains spirituuous liquor and that has been opened, has  
32 had its seal broken or the contents of which have been partially removed.

33 3. "Passenger compartment" means the area of a motor vehicle  
34 designed for the seating of the driver and other passengers of the  
35 vehicle. Passenger compartment includes an unlocked glove compartment and  
36 any unlocked portable devices within the immediate reach of the driver or  
37 any passengers. Passenger compartment does not include the trunk, a  
38 locked glove compartment or the area behind the last upright seat of a  
39 motor vehicle that is not equipped with a trunk.

40 4. "Public highway or right-of-way of a public highway" means the  
41 entire width between and immediately adjacent to the boundary lines of  
42 every way maintained by the federal government, this state or a county,  
43 city or town if any part of the way is generally open to the use of the  
44 public for purposes of vehicular travel.

1           Sec. 2. Section 28-1171, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
2 read:

3           28-1171. Definitions

4           In this article, unless the context otherwise requires:

5           1. "Access road" means a multiple use corridor that meets all of  
6 the following criteria:

7           (a) Is maintained for travel by two-wheel vehicles.

8           (b) Allows entry to staging areas, recreational facilities, trail  
9 heads and parking.

10           (c) Is determined to be an access road by the appropriate land  
11 managing authority.

12           2. "Closed course" means a maintained facility that uses department  
13 approved dust abatement and fire abatement measures.

14           3. "Highway" means the entire width between the boundary lines of  
15 every way publicly maintained by the federal government, the department, a  
16 city, a town or a county if any part of the way is generally open to the  
17 use of the public for purposes of conventional two-wheel drive vehicular  
18 travel. Highway does not include routes designated for off-highway  
19 vehicle use.

20           4. "Mitigation" means the rectification or reduction of existing  
21 damage to natural resources, including flora, fauna and land or cultural  
22 resources, including prehistoric or historic archaeological sites, if the  
23 damage is caused by off-highway vehicles.

24           5. "Off-highway recreation facility" includes off-highway vehicle  
25 use areas and trails designated for use by off-highway vehicles.

26           6. "Off-highway vehicle":

27           (a) Means a motorized vehicle that is operated primarily off of  
28 highways and that is designed, modified or purpose-built primarily for  
29 recreational nonhighway all-terrain travel.

30           (b) Includes a tracked or wheeled vehicle, ~~utility vehicle~~  
31 RECREATIONAL OR UTILITY SIDE-BY-SIDE VEHICLE, all-terrain vehicle,  
32 motorcycle, ~~four-wheel drive vehicle~~ DIRT BIKE, dune buggy, sand rail,  
33 amphibious vehicle, ground effects or air cushion vehicle and any other  
34 means of land transportation deriving motive power from a source other  
35 than muscle or wind. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBDIVISION, "DIRT BIKE"  
36 MEANS A LIGHTWEIGHT MOTORCYCLE THAT IS DESIGNED FOR USE ON ROUGH TERRAIN,  
37 INCLUDING UNSURFACED ROADS OR TRACKS.

38           (c) Does not include a vehicle that is either:

39           (i) Designed primarily for travel on, over or in the water.

40           (ii) Used in installation, inspection, maintenance, repair or  
41 related activities involving facilities for the provision of utility or  
42 railroad service or used in the exploration or mining of minerals or  
43 aggregates as defined in title 27.

1           7. "Off-highway vehicle special event" means an event that is  
2 endorsed, authorized, permitted or sponsored by a federal, state, county  
3 or municipal agency and in which the event participants operate  
4 off-highway vehicles on specific routes or areas designated by a local  
5 authority pursuant to section 28-627.

6           8. "Off-highway vehicle trail" means a multiple use corridor that  
7 is both of the following:

8           (a) Open to recreational travel by an off-highway vehicle.

9           (b) Designated or managed by or for the managing authority of the  
10 property that the trail traverses for off-highway vehicle use.

11           9. "Off-highway vehicle use area" means the entire area of a parcel  
12 of land, except for approved buffer areas, that is managed or designated  
13 for off-highway vehicle use.

14           Sec. 3. Section 28-1174, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
15 read:

16           28-1174. Operation restrictions; violation; classification;  
17 citation

18           A. A person ~~shall not drive~~ MAY NOT OPERATE OR ALLOW A MINOR WHO IS  
19 UNDER TWELVE YEARS OF AGE TO OPERATE an off-highway vehicle:

20           1. With reckless disregard for the safety of persons or property.

21           2. Off of an existing road, trail or route in a manner that causes  
22 damage to wildlife habitat, riparian areas, cultural or natural resources  
23 or property or improvements.

24           3. On roads, trails, routes or areas closed as indicated in rules  
25 or regulations of a federal agency, this state, a county or a municipality  
26 or by proper posting if the land is private land.

27           4. Over unimproved roads, trails, routes or areas unless driving on  
28 roads, trails, routes or areas where such driving is allowed by rule or  
29 regulation.

30           B. A person shall ~~drive~~ OPERATE OR ALLOW A MINOR WHO IS UNDER  
31 TWELVE YEARS OF AGE TO OPERATE an off-highway vehicle only on roads,  
32 trails, routes or areas that are opened as indicated in rules or  
33 regulations of a federal agency, this state, ~~OR~~ OR a county or a  
34 municipality.

35           C. A person shall not operate OR ALLOW A MINOR WHO IS UNDER TWELVE  
36 YEARS OF AGE TO OPERATE an off-highway vehicle in a manner that damages  
37 the environment, including excessive pollution of air, water or land,  
38 abuse of the watershed or cultural or natural resources or impairment of  
39 plant or animal life, where it is prohibited by rule, regulation,  
40 ordinance or code.

41           D. A person shall not place or remove a regulatory sign governing  
42 off-highway vehicle use on any public or state land. This subsection does  
43 not apply to an agent of an appropriate federal, state, county, town or  
44 city agency operating within that agency's authority.

1 E. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION I OF THIS SECTION, a person who  
2 violates subsection A, paragraph 1 is guilty of a class 2 misdemeanor.

3 F. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION I OF THIS SECTION, a person who  
4 violates any other provision of this section is guilty of a class 3  
5 misdemeanor.

6 G. In addition to or in lieu of a fine pursuant to this section, a  
7 judge may order the person to perform at least eight but not more than  
8 twenty-four hours of community restitution or to complete an approved  
9 safety course related to the off-highway operation of motor vehicles, or  
10 both.

11 H. Subsections A and B OF THIS SECTION do not prohibit a private  
12 landowner or lessee from performing normal agricultural or ranching  
13 practices while operating an all-terrain vehicle or an off-highway vehicle  
14 on the private or leased land.

15 I. IF A MINOR WHO IS UNDER TWELVE YEARS OF AGE VIOLATES THIS  
16 SECTION, A CITATION SHALL BE ISSUED TO THE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF THE  
17 MINOR AND NOT TO THE MINOR. IF A MINOR WHO IS AT LEAST TWELVE YEARS OF  
18 AGE AND UNDER SIXTEEN YEARS OF AGE VIOLATES THIS SECTION, A CITATION MAY  
19 BE ISSUED TO THE MINOR OR TO THE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF THE MINOR,  
20 BUT NOT TO BOTH.

21 Sec. 4. Section 28-1179, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
22 read:

23 28-1179. Off-highway vehicle equipment requirements; rule  
24 making; exception

25 A. An off-highway vehicle in operation in this state shall be  
26 equipped with all of the following:

27 1. Brakes adequate to control the movement of the vehicle and to  
28 stop and hold the vehicle under normal operating conditions.

29 2. Lighted headlights and taillights that meet or exceed original  
30 equipment manufacturer guidelines if operated between one-half hour after  
31 sunset and one-half hour before sunrise.

32 3. Except when operating on a closed course, either a muffler or  
33 other noise dissipative device that prevents sound above ninety-six  
34 decibels. The director shall adopt the current sound measurement standard  
35 of the society of automotive engineers for all-terrain vehicles and  
36 motorcycles and the current sound measurement standard of the  
37 international organization for standardization for all other off-highway  
38 vehicles.

39 4. A spark arrestor device that is approved by the United States  
40 department of agriculture and that is in constant operation except if  
41 operating on a closed course.

1           5. A safety flag that is at least six by twelve inches and that is  
2 attached to the off-highway vehicle at least eight feet above the surface  
3 of level ground, if operated on sand dunes or IN areas designated by the  
4 managing agency.

5           B. A person who is under eighteen years of age may not operate AN  
6 OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE or ~~ride on~~ BE an off-highway vehicle PASSENGER on  
7 public or state land unless the person is wearing A protective ~~headgear~~  
8 HELMET that is properly fitted and fastened, that is designed for  
9 motorized vehicle use and that has a minimum United States department of  
10 transportation safety rating.

11           C. A PERSON MAY NOT ALLOW A PERSON WHO IS UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF  
12 AGE TO OPERATE AN OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE OR BE AN OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE  
13 PASSENGER IN VIOLATION OF SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION.

14           D. SUBSECTIONS B AND C OF THIS SECTION DO NOT APPLY TO A CHILD WHO  
15 IS AN OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE PASSENGER IF BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING OCCUR:

16           1. THE CHILD IS PROPERLY SECURED IN A CHILD RESTRAINT SYSTEM  
17 PURSUANT TO SECTION 28-907.

18           2. THE OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE IS EQUIPPED WITH A ROLLOVER PROTECTION  
19 SYSTEM.

20           ~~D.~~ E. In consultation with the department ~~of transportation~~, the  
21 Arizona game and fish commission may:

22           1. Adopt rules necessary to implement this section.

23           2. Prescribe additional equipment requirements not in conflict with  
24 federal laws.

25           ~~D.~~ F. This section does not apply to a private landowner or lessee  
26 performing normal agricultural or ranching practices while operating an  
27 all-terrain vehicle or an off-highway vehicle on the private or leased  
28 land in accordance with the landowner's or lessee's lease.

29           Sec. 5. Section 28-3151, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
30 read:

31           28-3151. Driver license requirement; definition

32           A. Unless exempt pursuant to this chapter, a person shall not drive  
33 a motor vehicle or vehicle combination on a highway without a valid driver  
34 license and proper endorsement as prescribed by this chapter.

35           B. A person who is licensed under this chapter is entitled to  
36 exercise the privilege granted by this chapter on highways and is not  
37 required to obtain another license to exercise the privilege by a county,  
38 municipal or local board or a body with authority to adopt local police  
39 regulations.

40           C. A PERSON MAY NOT DRIVE AN OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE IN THIS STATE  
41 WITHOUT A VALID DRIVER LICENSE AS PRESCRIBED BY THIS CHAPTER. IF A MINOR  
42 WHO IS UNDER TWELVE YEARS OF AGE VIOLATES THIS SUBSECTION, A CITATION  
43 SHALL BE ISSUED TO THE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF THE MINOR AND NOT TO  
44 THE MINOR. IF A MINOR WHO IS AT LEAST TWELVE YEARS OF AGE AND UNDER

1 SIXTEEN YEARS OF AGE VIOLATES THIS SUBSECTION, A CITATION MAY BE ISSUED TO  
2 THE MINOR OR TO THE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF THE MINOR, BUT NOT TO  
3 BOTH.

4 D. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "HIGHWAY":

5 1. MEANS THE ENTIRE WIDTH BETWEEN THE BOUNDARY LINES OF EVERY WAY  
6 PUBLICLY MAINTAINED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE DEPARTMENT OR A CITY,  
7 TOWN OR COUNTY IF ANY PART OF THE WAY IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR THE  
8 PURPOSES OF VEHICULAR TRAVEL OTHER THAN EXCLUSIVE OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE USE.

9 2. DOES NOT INCLUDE ROUTES DESIGNATED FOR OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE USE.

10 Sec. 6. Off-highway vehicle user indicia; education  
11 requirement; report; delayed repeal

12 A. The Arizona game and fish department shall certify an  
13 off-highway vehicle safety education course that includes verification of  
14 completion.

15 B. The Arizona game and fish department shall ensure that a person  
16 may complete the off-highway vehicle safety education course online.

17 C. From and after December 31, 2024, a person must complete the  
18 off-highway vehicle safety education course and provide to the department  
19 of transportation proof of the completion before the department of  
20 transportation may issue a resident or nonresident off-highway vehicle  
21 user indicia to the person pursuant to section 28-1177, Arizona Revised  
22 Statutes, or provide proof of completion to the Arizona game and fish  
23 department if the person purchases a nonresident off-highway user indicia  
24 from the Arizona game and fish department pursuant to section 28-1177,  
25 Arizona Revised Statutes. The department of transportation shall share  
26 with the Arizona game and fish department all off-highway vehicle data  
27 relating to persons who have provided proof of completion of the education  
28 course prescribed by this subsection and all user indicias issued by the  
29 department of transportation pursuant to this subsection.

30 D. On or before December 1, 2026, the Arizona game and fish  
31 department shall submit a report regarding the results of implementing the  
32 education requirement prescribed in subsection A of this section,  
33 including the revenues and costs associated with the implementation and  
34 any recommendations for administrative or legislative action, to the  
35 governor, the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of  
36 representatives and provide a copy of this report to the secretary of  
37 state.

38 E. This section is repealed from and after May 31, 2027.