



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2013 Assembly Bill 743	Assembly Amendments 1 and 2
<i>Memo published:</i> February 18, 2014	<i>Contact:</i> Larry Konopacki, Senior Staff Attorney (267-0683) Michael Queensland, Staff Attorney (266-3810)

Under current law, a person may operate an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) or a utility terrain vehicle (UTV) on a highway to cross a bridge, culvert, or railroad right-of-way under certain conditions, unless the roadway is officially closed to ATV or UTV traffic.

2013 Assembly Bill 743 allows ATV or UTV operation on roadways officially closed to ATV or UTV traffic to cross a bridge that is 1,000 feet in length or less, if the operation is in compliance with ordinances adopted by the county and the city, village, or town in which the bridge is located. Such ordinances must require a person crossing a bridge to:

- Cross the bridge in the most direct manner practicable and at a place where no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing.
- Stay as far to the right of the roadway or shoulder as practicable.
- Stop the vehicle prior to the crossing.
- Yield the right-of-way to other vehicles, pedestrians, and electric personal assistive mobility devices using the roadway or shoulder.

The bill also requires local governments adopting ordinances relating to ATVs or UTVs to send copies to the state patrol and to each local government with jurisdiction over a highway to which the ordinance applies.

Assembly Amendment 1 specifies that county and municipal ordinances allowing bridge crossings as described above must also require the operator to exit the highway as quickly and safely as practicable after crossing the bridge.

Assembly Amendment 2 provides that a county or municipal ordinance allowing bridge crossings as described above may not allow operation of an ATV or UTV on a bridge that is part of the Interstate Highway System.

Bill History

Assembly Amendment 1 was offered by Representative Marklein on February 10, 2014. On February 12, 2014, the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources and Sporting Heritage recommended adoption of Assembly Amendment 1 and passage of the bill, as amended, by votes of Ayes, 16; Noes, 0.

Assembly Amendment 2 was offered by Representative Marklein on February 13, 2014. On February 18, 2014, the Assembly adopted Assembly Amendments 1 and 2 and passed the bill, as amended, on a voice vote.

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