

By: King

H.B. No. 900

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the operation of all-terrain vehicles by law  
3 enforcement officers.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 663.037, Transportation Code, is amended  
6 by amending Subsections (e) and (f) and by adding Subsection (g) to  
7 read as follows:

8 (e) The director of the Department of Public Safety shall  
9 adopt standards and specifications that apply to the color, size,  
10 and mounting position of the flag required under Subsections  
11 ~~[Subsection]~~ (d)(2) and (g)(2).

12 (f) Except as provided by Subsection (g), this [This]  
13 section does not apply to the operation of an all-terrain vehicle  
14 that is owned by the state, a county, or a municipality by a person  
15 who is an authorized operator of the vehicle.

16 (g) A peace officer may operate an all-terrain vehicle on a  
17 public street, road, or highway that is not an interstate or  
18 limited-access highway only if:

19 (1) the transportation is in connection with the  
20 performance of the officer's official duty;

21 (2) the officer attaches to the back of the vehicle on  
22 top of an eight-foot-long pole a triangular orange flag;

23 (3) the vehicle's headlights and taillights are  
24 illuminated;

1           (4) the officer holds a driver's license, as defined by  
2 Section 521.001; and

3           (5) the operation of the all-terrain vehicle does not  
4 exceed a distance of 25 miles from the point of origin to the  
5 destination.

6           SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.