

1-1 By: King (Senate Sponsor - Estes) H.B. No. 900
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 3, 2003;
1-3 April 7, 2003, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Criminal Justice; May 13, 2003, reported favorably by the
1-5 following vote: Yeas 4, Nays 0; May 13, 2003, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the operation of all-terrain vehicles by law
1-9 enforcement officers.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Section 663.037, Transportation Code, is amended
1-12 by amending Subsections (e) and (f) and by adding Subsection (g) to
1-13 read as follows:

1-14 (e) The director of the Department of Public Safety shall
1-15 adopt standards and specifications that apply to the color, size,
1-16 and mounting position of the flag required under Subsections
1-17 [Subsection] (d)(2) and (g)(2).

1-18 (f) Except as provided by Subsection (g), this [This]
1-19 section does not apply to the operation of an all-terrain vehicle
1-20 that is owned by the state, a county, or a municipality by a person
1-21 who is an authorized operator of the vehicle.

1-22 (g) A peace officer may operate an all-terrain vehicle on a
1-23 public street, road, or highway that is not an interstate or
1-24 limited-access highway only if:

1-25 (1) the transportation is in connection with the
1-26 performance of the officer's official duty;

1-27 (2) the officer attaches to the back of the vehicle on
1-28 top of an eight-foot-long pole a triangular orange flag;

1-29 (3) the vehicle's headlights and taillights are
1-30 illuminated;

1-31 (4) the officer holds a driver's license, as defined by
1-32 Section 521.001; and

1-33 (5) the operation of the all-terrain vehicle does not
1-34 exceed a distance of 25 miles from the point of origin to the
1-35 destination.

1-36 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

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