

By: Representative Perkins

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and
Parks; Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 31

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE OWNER OF AN ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE TO
 2 REGISTER THE VEHICLE WITH THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT OF THE COUNTY
 3 OF HIS OR HER RESIDENCE; TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
 4 SAFETY TO ESTABLISH A STATEWIDE ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE REGISTRATION
 5 NETWORK DESIGNED TO PROVIDE IMMEDIATE RESPONSE TO SHERIFFS'
 6 DEPARTMENTS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES WITH REGARD TO REPORTS OR
 7 COMPLAINTS INVOLVING ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES; TO PROVIDE FOR THE
 8 COLLECTION AND DISPOSITION OF FEES FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
 9 OF THE NETWORK; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

11 **SECTION 1.** (1) The term "all-terrain vehicle" or "ATV," as
 12 used in this section, means any motorized vehicle manufactured and
 13 designed exclusively for off-road use that is fifty (50) inches or
 14 less in width, has an unladen dry weight of seven hundred fifty
 15 (750) pounds or less, travels on three (3), four (4) or more low
 16 pressure tires, has a seat designed to be straddled by the
 17 operator and uses handlebars for steering control.

18 (2) Beginning July 1, 2017, every owner of an all-terrain
 19 vehicle who is a resident of this state, shall register that
 20 vehicle with the sheriff of the county in which the owner resides.
 21 Registration shall be made in duplicate on a form prepared and



22 provided to the sheriff by the Mississippi Department of Public
23 Safety. Each form shall include: (a) the name and address of the
24 owner of the vehicle; (b) the age and sex of the owner; (c) the
25 make, model and serial number of the vehicle; (d) the name and
26 address of the person, firm or business from whom the vehicle was
27 acquired or purchased and the date of acquisition or purchase; and
28 (e) the place where the vehicle is usually kept.

29 (3) The original registration form shall be retained by the
30 sheriff in a safe and convenient file to be furnished him by the
31 board of supervisors for that purpose and also may be recorded on
32 computer or other electronic format. All registrations shall be
33 filed and arranged and/or formatted for retrieval in alphabetical
34 order and shall be open to public inspection as required under the
35 Mississippi Public Records Act of 1983. A copy of the
36 registration form shall be forwarded to the Department of Public
37 Safety within thirty (30) days after completion of registration.
38 The department shall file and maintain copies of all registrations
39 filed with it and shall establish and maintain a statewide ATV
40 registration network designed to provide immediate response to
41 sheriffs' departments and other law enforcement agencies with
42 regard to reports or complaints involving ATVs. At the time of
43 registration, the sheriff shall issue to the registrant a decal
44 for placement on the ATV. The decal shall be designed by the
45 Department of Public Safety and shall be provided to the sheriff
46 by the department. Each decal shall contain a number and/or other



47 vehicle identifying information as the Department of Public Safety
48 may prescribe so that the decal may be identified from a
49 reasonable distance.

50 (4) At the time of registration, the registrant shall pay to
51 the sheriff a one-time fee of Ten Dollars (\$10.00). Six Dollars
52 (\$6.00) of the fee shall be forwarded to the Department of Public
53 Safety at the time that the sheriff's department is required under
54 subsection (3) of this section to provide the department with a
55 copy of the registration. Four Dollars (\$4.00) of the fee shall
56 be retained by the sheriff and shall be paid to the chancery clerk
57 for deposit into the general fund of the county. The fees
58 received by the Department of Public Safety shall be deposited
59 into the Department of Public Safety Administrative Fund created
60 under Section 45-1-21 and may be expended by the department, upon
61 appropriation by the Legislature, for the expenses the department
62 incurs in complying with the provisions of this section.

63 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
64 and after July 1, 2017.

