

SENATE BILL NO. 179—SENATOR HARDY

MARCH 9, 2009

Referred to Committee on Energy, Infrastructure and Transportation

SUMMARY—Expands the definition of a low-speed vehicle to include certain utility terrain vehicles. (BDR 43-904)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: Increases or Newly Provides for Term of Imprisonment in County or City Jail or Detention Facility.
Effect on the State: Yes.

~

EXPLANATION – Matter in **bolded italics** is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; expanding the definition of a low-speed vehicle to include certain utility terrain vehicles; providing a penalty; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

- 1 Existing law allows a low-speed vehicle which has been registered with the
2 Department of Motor Vehicles to be operated on a highway where the speed limit is
3 35 miles per hour or less. (NRS 484.527) This bill expands the definition of a low-
4 speed vehicle to include a utility terrain vehicle which has been modified to comply
5 with the standards for safety of a low-speed vehicle set forth in Federal Motor
6 Vehicle Safety Standard No. 500 at 49 C.F.R. § 571.500.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 **Section 1.** NRS 484.527 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 484.527 1. As used in this section ~~[“low-speed”]~~ :
3 (a) **“Low-speed** vehicle” means a motor vehicle:
4 ~~[(a)]~~ (1) Designed to carry not more than four persons;
5 ~~[(b)]~~ (2) Designed to operate at a maximum speed of at least
6 20 but not more than 25 miles per hour;
7 ~~[(c)]~~ (3) Having at least four wheels in contact with the
8 ground;



~~(d)~~ (4) Having an unladen weight of less than 1,800 pounds; and

~~(e)~~ (5) Complying with the standards for safety of such a vehicle set forth in Federal Motor **Vehicle** Safety Standard No. 500 at 49 C.F.R. § 571.500.

↪ *The term includes a utility terrain vehicle which has been modified to comply with the standards specified in subparagraph (5).*

(b) *“Utility terrain vehicle” means a motor vehicle:*

(1) *Designed with a roll cage and two seats installed side by side;*

(2) *Designed to be driven on a variety of terrains;*

(3) *Having at least four wheels in contact with the ground; and*

(4) *Having the capability of four-wheel drive.*

2. If registered, a low-speed vehicle may be operated upon a highway where the posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less. A person shall not operate a low-speed vehicle upon a highway where the posted speed limit is greater than 35 miles per hour, except to cross such a highway at an intersection.

Sec. 2. This act becomes effective:

1. Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

2. On January 1, 2010, for all other purposes.

