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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIFTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. 3068

February 18, 2008

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

March 3, 2008

Committee Recommendation and Adoption of Report:

To Pass as Amended and re-referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations, Reform, Technology and Elections

March 17, 2008

Committee Recommendation and Adoption of Report:

To Pass as Amended and re-referred to the Committee on Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to natural resources; providing a uniform expiration date for snowmobile
1.3 registrations and trail stickers; extending effective period of temporary
1.4 permits for snowmobiles, off-highway motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles,
1.5 and watercraft; modifying temporary permit information requirements for
1.6 snowmobiles; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 84.788, subdivision
1.7 3; 84.82, subdivision 2, by adding a subdivision; 84.922, subdivision 2;
1.8 86B.401, subdivision 2; Minnesota Statutes 2007 Supplement, section 84.8205,
1.9 subdivision 1.

1.10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.11 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 84.788, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

1.12 Subd. 3. **Application; issuance; reports.** (a) Application for registration or
1.13 continued registration must be made to the commissioner or an authorized deputy registrar
1.14 of motor vehicles in a form prescribed by the commissioner. The form must state the name
1.15 and address of every owner of the off-highway motorcycle.

1.16 (b) A person who purchases from a retail dealer an off-highway motorcycle shall
1.17 make application for registration to the dealer at the point of sale. The dealer shall issue a
1.18 dealer temporary ~~ten-day~~ 21-day registration permit to each purchaser who applies to the
1.19 dealer for registration. The dealer shall submit the completed registration applications and
1.20 fees to the deputy registrar at least once each week. No fee may be charged by a dealer to
1.21 a purchaser for providing the temporary permit.

1.22 (c) Upon receipt of the application and the appropriate fee, the commissioner
1.23 or deputy registrar shall issue to the applicant, or provide to the dealer, an assigned
1.24 registration number or a commissioner or deputy registrar temporary ~~ten-day~~ 21-day
1.25 permit. Once issued, the registration number must be affixed to the motorcycle according

2.1 to paragraph (f). A dealer subject to paragraph (b) shall provide the registration materials
2.2 or temporary permit to the purchaser within the ~~ten-day~~ 21-day temporary permit period.

2.3 (d) The commissioner shall develop a registration system to register vehicles under
2.4 this section. A deputy registrar of motor vehicles acting under section 168.33, is also a
2.5 deputy registrar of off-highway motorcycles. The commissioner of natural resources
2.6 in agreement with the commissioner of public safety may prescribe the accounting
2.7 and procedural requirements necessary to ensure efficient handling of registrations
2.8 and registration fees. Deputy registrars shall strictly comply with the accounting and
2.9 procedural requirements.

2.10 (e) In addition to other fees prescribed by law, a filing fee of \$4.50 is charged for
2.11 each off-highway motorcycle registration renewal, duplicate or replacement registration
2.12 card, and replacement decal and a filing fee of \$7 is charged for each off-highway
2.13 motorcycle registration and registration transfer issued by:

2.14 (1) a deputy registrar and must be deposited in the treasury of the jurisdiction where
2.15 the deputy is appointed, or kept if the deputy is not a public official; or

2.16 (2) the commissioner and must be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the
2.17 off-highway motorcycle account.

2.18 (f) Unless exempted in paragraph (g), the owner of an off-highway motorcycle must
2.19 display a registration decal issued by the commissioner. If the motorcycle is licensed as
2.20 a motor vehicle, a registration decal must be affixed on the upper left corner of the rear
2.21 license plate. If the motorcycle is not licensed as a motor vehicle, the decal must be
2.22 attached on the side of the motorcycle and may be attached to the fork tube. The decal
2.23 must be attached in a manner so that it is visible while a rider is on the motorcycle. The
2.24 issued decals must be of a size to work within the constraints of the electronic licensing
2.25 system, not to exceed three inches high and three inches wide.

2.26 (g) Display of a registration decal is not required for an off-highway motorcycle:

2.27 (1) while being operated on private property; or

2.28 (2) while competing in a closed-course competition event.

2.29 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 84.82, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

2.30 Subd. 2. **Application, issuance, reports, additional fee.** (a) Application for
2.31 registration or reregistration shall be made to the commissioner or an authorized deputy
2.32 registrar of motor vehicles in a format prescribed by the commissioner and shall state the
2.33 legal name and address of every owner of the snowmobile.

2.34 (b) A person who purchases a snowmobile from a retail dealer shall make
2.35 application for registration to the dealer at the point of sale. The dealer shall issue a dealer

3.1 temporary ~~ten-day~~ 21-day registration permit to each purchaser who applies to the dealer
3.2 for registration. The temporary permit must contain the dealer's identification number and
3.3 phone number. Each retail dealer shall submit completed registration and fees to the
3.4 deputy registrar at least once a week. No fee may be charged by a dealer to a purchaser for
3.5 providing the temporary permit.

3.6 (c) Upon receipt of the application and the appropriate fee as hereinafter provided,
3.7 the commissioner or deputy registrar shall issue to the applicant, or provide to the dealer,
3.8 an assigned registration number or a commissioner or deputy registrar temporary ~~ten-day~~
3.9 21-day permit. Once issued, the registration number must be affixed to the snowmobile in
3.10 a clearly visible and permanent manner for enforcement purposes as the commissioner
3.11 of natural resources shall prescribe. A dealer subject to paragraph (b) shall provide the
3.12 registration materials or temporary permit to the purchaser within the temporary ~~ten-day~~
3.13 21-day permit period. The registration is not valid unless signed by at least one owner.
3.14 The temporary permit must indicate whether a snowmobile state trail sticker under section
3.15 84.8205 was purchased.

3.16 (d) Each deputy registrar of motor vehicles acting pursuant to section 168.33, shall
3.17 also be a deputy registrar of snowmobiles. The commissioner of natural resources in
3.18 agreement with the commissioner of public safety may prescribe the accounting and
3.19 procedural requirements necessary to assure efficient handling of registrations and
3.20 registration fees. Deputy registrars shall strictly comply with these accounting and
3.21 procedural requirements.

3.22 (e) A fee of \$2 in addition to that otherwise prescribed by law shall be charged for:

3.23 (1) each snowmobile registered by the registrar or a deputy registrar and the
3.24 additional fee shall be disposed of in the manner provided in section 168.33, subdivision
3.25 2; or

3.26 (2) each snowmobile registered by the commissioner and the additional fee shall
3.27 be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the snowmobile trails and enforcement
3.28 account in the natural resources fund.

3.29 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 84.82, is amended by adding a subdivision to
3.30 read:

3.31 Subd. 3a. **Expiration.** All snowmobile registrations, excluding temporary
3.32 registration permits, required under this section expire June 30 of the year of expiration.

3.33 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2007 Supplement, section 84.8205, subdivision 1, is
3.34 amended to read:

4.1 Subdivision 1. **Sticker required; fee.** (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), a
4.2 person may not operate a snowmobile on a state or grant-in-aid snowmobile trail unless a
4.3 snowmobile state trail sticker is affixed to the snowmobile. The commissioner of natural
4.4 resources shall issue a sticker upon application and payment of a \$15 fee. The fee for a
4.5 three-year snowmobile state trail sticker that is purchased at the time of snowmobile
4.6 registration is \$30. In addition to other penalties prescribed by law, a person in violation
4.7 of this subdivision must purchase an annual state trail sticker for a fee of \$30. The sticker
4.8 is valid from November 1 through ~~April~~ June 30. Fees collected under this section, except
4.9 for the issuing fee for licensing agents, shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited
4.10 to the snowmobile trails and enforcement account in the natural resources fund and,
4.11 except for the electronic licensing system commission established by the commissioner
4.12 under section 84.027, subdivision 15, must be used for grants-in-aid, trail maintenance,
4.13 grooming, and easement acquisition.

4.14 (b) A state trail sticker is not required under this section for:

4.15 (1) a snowmobile owned by the state or a political subdivision of the state that is
4.16 registered under section 84.82, subdivision 5;

4.17 (2) a snowmobile that is owned and used by the United States, another state, or
4.18 a political subdivision thereof that is exempt from registration under section 84.82,
4.19 subdivision 6;

4.20 (3) a collector snowmobile that is operated as provided in a special permit issued for
4.21 the collector snowmobile under section 84.82, subdivision 7a;

4.22 (4) a person operating a snowmobile only on the portion of a trail that is owned by
4.23 the person or the person's spouse, child, or parent; or

4.24 (5) a snowmobile while being used to groom a state or grant-in-aid trail.

4.25 (c) A temporary registration permit issued by a dealer under section 84.82,
4.26 subdivision 2, may include a snowmobile state trail sticker if the trail sticker fee is
4.27 included with the registration application fee.

4.28 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 84.922, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

4.29 Subd. 2. **Application, issuance, reports.** (a) Application for registration or
4.30 continued registration shall be made to the commissioner or an authorized deputy registrar
4.31 of motor vehicles in a form prescribed by the commissioner. The form must state the name
4.32 and address of every owner of the vehicle.

4.33 (b) A person who purchases an all-terrain vehicle from a retail dealer shall make
4.34 application for registration to the dealer at the point of sale. The dealer shall issue a dealer
4.35 temporary ~~ten-day~~ 21-day registration permit to each purchaser who applies to the dealer

5.1 for registration. The dealer shall submit the completed registration application and fees
5.2 to the deputy registrar at least once each week. No fee may be charged by a dealer to a
5.3 purchaser for providing the temporary permit.

5.4 (c) Upon receipt of the application and the appropriate fee, the commissioner
5.5 or deputy registrar shall issue to the applicant, or provide to the dealer, an assigned
5.6 registration number or a commissioner or deputy registrar temporary ~~ten-day~~ 21-day
5.7 permit. Once issued, the registration number must be affixed to the vehicle in a manner
5.8 prescribed by the commissioner. A dealer subject to paragraph (b) shall provide the
5.9 registration materials or temporary permit to the purchaser within the ~~ten-day~~ 21-day
5.10 temporary permit period. The commissioner shall use the snowmobile registration system
5.11 to register vehicles under this section.

5.12 (d) Each deputy registrar of motor vehicles acting under section 168.33, is also
5.13 a deputy registrar of all-terrain vehicles. The commissioner of natural resources in
5.14 agreement with the commissioner of public safety may prescribe the accounting and
5.15 procedural requirements necessary to assure efficient handling of registrations and
5.16 registration fees. Deputy registrars shall strictly comply with the accounting and
5.17 procedural requirements.

5.18 (e) In addition to other fees prescribed by law, a filing fee of \$4.50 is charged
5.19 for each all-terrain vehicle registration renewal, duplicate or replacement registration
5.20 card, and replacement decal and a filing fee of \$7 is charged for each all-terrain vehicle
5.21 registration and registration transfer issued by:

5.22 (1) a deputy registrar and shall be deposited in the treasury of the jurisdiction where
5.23 the deputy is appointed, or retained if the deputy is not a public official; or

5.24 (2) the commissioner and shall be deposited to the state treasury and credited to the
5.25 all-terrain vehicle account in the natural resources fund.

5.26 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 86B.401, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

5.27 Subd. 2. **Temporary certificate.** A person who applies for a watercraft license may
5.28 be issued a temporary license certificate to operate the watercraft. The temporary license
5.29 certificate is valid for ~~the period of time specified by the commissioner~~ 21 days.

5.30 Sec. 7. **RULES.**

5.31 The commissioner of natural resources shall adopt rules to implement the changes in
5.32 law made in sections 1 to 6. The initial rules required by this section are exempt from
5.33 the rulemaking provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 14. The rules are subject to
5.34 Minnesota Statutes, section 14.386, except that notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes,

- 6.1 section 14.386, paragraph (b), the rules continue in effect until repealed or superseded
- 6.2 by other law or rule.