

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 853

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to direct the Tennessee Department of Transportation to study and develop recommendations for the comprehensive opening of roads for off-highway vehicle use in Anderson, Morgan, Scott, Fentress, Pickett, Union, Campbell, and Claiborne counties.

WHEREAS, the recreational-tourism industry is an economic driver in many rural Tennessee counties, including Anderson, Morgan, Scott, Fentress, Pickett, Union, Campbell, and Claiborne counties; and

WHEREAS, each year, multiple bills are introduced to authorize the use of off-highway vehicles on specific segments of individual state highways in Anderson, Morgan, Scott, Fentress, Pickett, Union, Campbell, and Claiborne counties; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly finds it necessary to take a comprehensive look and approach to how the use of off-highway vehicles is authorized in these rural counties leading the way in Tennessee's recreational-tourism industry; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that the Tennessee Department of Transportation is requested to conduct a study of the roads in Anderson, Morgan, Scott, Fentress, Pickett, Union, Campbell, and Claiborne counties and their potential for off-highway vehicle use.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tennessee Department of Transportation shall report facts and findings and make recommendations prior to January 1, 2021, to the chairs of the Senate Transportation and Safety Committee and the Transportation Committee of the House of Representatives regarding the opening of roads to off-highway vehicle use in these counties in a comprehensive manner.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tennessee Department of Transportation is urged to consult with the Tennessee Department of Safety and local officials, chambers of commerce, local tourism agencies, and industry groups in conducting the study and preparing recommendations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be prepared and transmitted to the Commissioner of Transportation.