

"P" 15 (2017)

"M" 11 (2017)

Albany, New York

December 27, 2017

TO: All Enforcement Agencies and Magistrates

SUBJECT: Chapter 341 of the Laws of 2017 – Snowmobile Definition Amendments and Snowmobile Fine Changes

Effective January 1, 2018, Chapter 341 of the Laws of 2017 amends the Vehicle and Traffic Law (VTL) and the Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law regarding snowmobiles.

Subdivision 1 of section 2221 of the VTL and subdivision 3 of section 21.05 of the Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law are amended to define a snowmobile as a "...self-propelled vehicle *equipped with a motor, originally manufactured and* designed for travel on snow or ice, steered by skis or runners and supported in whole or in part by one or more skis, belts or *tracked cleats.*" (amendments in italics)

VTL section 2222(1) is amended to add paragraphs (a) and (b) to more clearly distinguish between certain snowmobile operating violations. Under new paragraph (a), a snowmobile must be registered and have a valid registration number. Under new paragraph (b), the registration number must be properly displayed.

VTL section 2230(2) is amended to change the fines for violations as follows:

- **Except as provided in new paragraph (b) of VTL section 2230(2)**, new paragraph (a) changes the fine for any violation of Article 47 of the VTL (Registration of Snowmobiles), or of the related regulations, from \$200 to up to \$200. This change also applies to violations for failure to properly display the registration under new VTL section 2222(1)(b).
- New paragraph (b) increases the fines for a violation under new VTL section 2222(1)(a), to a minimum fine of \$200 and a maximum fine of \$500. The

maximum fine for failure to renew a snowmobile registration that was valid within 60 days is \$50. One-half of all such fine amounts will be deposited in the Snowmobile Trail Development and Maintenance Fund.

A copy of Chapter 341 is attached for your reference. Please share this information with appropriate staff. Thank you.

Theresa L. Egan  
Executive Deputy Commissioner

Attachment

## STATE OF NEW YORK

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1584--C

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

### IN ASSEMBLY

January 12, 2017

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Introduced by M. of A. WOERNER, BLANKENBUSH, STIRPE, STEC -- read once and referred to the Committee on Tourism, Parks, Arts and Sports Development -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- again reported from said committee with amendments, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- reported and referred to the Committee on Codes -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the parks, recreation and historic preservation law and the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to the definition of "snowmobile"; to amend the parks, recreation and historic preservation law, in relation to increasing state aid to localities for enforcement of provisions relating to snowmobiles; and to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to penalties for operation of an unregistered snowmobile

**The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:**

1 Section 1. Subdivision 3 of section 21.05 of the parks, recreation  
2 and historic preservation law is amended to read as follows:

3 3. "Snowmobile" shall mean a self-propelled vehicle **equipped with a**  
4 **motor, originally manufactured and** designed for travel on snow or ice,  
5 steered by skis or runners and supported in whole or in part by one or  
6 more skis, belts or **tracked** cleats.

7 § 2. Subdivision 2 of section 27.15 of the parks, recreation and  
8 historic preservation law, as amended by chapter 839 of the laws of  
9 1973, is amended to read as follows:

10 2. The amount of state aid to be allocated to counties, cities, towns  
11 or villages shall be determined by the commissioner as hereinafter  
12 provided. The commissioner shall determine the percentage proportion  
13 which the authorized expenditures of each individual county, city, town  
14 or village, but not exceeding [~~twenty-five~~] **fifty** thousand dollars for

EXPLANATION--Matter in **italics** (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD03371-08-7

1 each county including the municipalities therein, shall bear to the  
2 total authorized expenditures of all the counties, cities, towns or  
3 villages for enforcement of such provisions during the fiscal year. Such  
4 percentage proportion shall then be applied against an amount equal to  
5 twenty-five percent of the amount received by the state in fees received  
6 for registration of snowmobiles during such fiscal year, to the extent  
7 only and not exceeding the sum of [~~one~~] two hundred [~~fifty~~] thousand  
8 dollars. The amount thus determined shall constitute the maximum amount  
9 of state aid to which each county, city, town or village shall be enti-  
10 tled. Provided, however, that no county, city, town or village shall  
11 receive state aid in an amount in excess of [~~one-half~~] three-quarters of  
12 its authorized expenditures as approved by the commissioner for such  
13 fiscal year. The commissioner shall certify to the comptroller the  
14 amount thus determined for each county, city, town or village as the  
15 amount of state aid to be apportioned to such county, city, town or  
16 village.

17 § 3. Subdivision 1 of section 2221 of the vehicle and traffic law, as  
18 added by chapter 839 of the laws of 1973, is amended to read as follows:

19 1. Snowmobile. Any self-propelled vehicle equipped with a motor,  
20 originally manufactured and designed for travel on snow or ice, steered  
21 by skis or runners and supported in whole or in part by one or more  
22 skis, belts or tracked cleats.

23 § 4. Subdivision 1 of section 2222 of the vehicle and traffic law, as  
24 added by chapter 839 of the laws of 1973, is amended to read as follows:

25 1. Except as hereinafter provided, no person shall operate any snowmo-  
26 bile within the state unless: (a) such snowmobile has been registered  
27 and numbered in accordance with the provisions of this article, and the  
28 registration number for such snowmobile is in full force and effect as  
29 hereinafter provided; and (b) the registration number for such snowmo-  
30 bile is displayed as hereinafter provided.

31 § 5. Subdivision 2 of section 2230 of the vehicle and traffic law, as  
32 amended by chapter 609 of the laws of 2005, is amended to read as  
33 follows:

34 2. [~~Any~~] a. Except as provided in paragraph b of this subdivision, any  
35 person who violates any provision of this article or regulation adopted  
36 pursuant thereto shall be guilty of a violation punishable by a fine of  
37 up to two hundred dollars, and one-half of such fine shall be deposited  
38 in the snowmobile trail development and maintenance fund as set forth in  
39 section 21.07 of the parks, recreation and historic preservation law.

40 b. Any person who violates the provisions of paragraph a of subdivi-  
41 sion one of section twenty-two hundred twenty-two of this article shall  
42 be guilty of a violation punishable by a fine of not less than two  
43 hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, except if the  
44 violation consists of failure to renew a registration which was valid  
45 within sixty days the fine shall be not more than fifty dollars. One-  
46 half of such fines shall be deposited in the snowmobile trail develop-  
47 ment and maintenance fund as set forth in section 21.07 of the parks,  
48 recreation and historic preservation law.

49 § 6. This act shall take effect January 1, 2018.

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