

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 999

To direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the National Academy of Sciences to study the vehicle handling requirements proposed by the Commission for recreational off-highway vehicles and to prohibit the adoption of any such requirements until the completion of the study.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 13, 2015

Mr. POMPEO (for himself, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. HARPER, Mr. DUFFY, Mr. STEWART, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. KLINE, Mr. ZINKE, Mr. OLSON, Mrs. NOEM, Mr. AMODEI, and Mr. STIVERS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the National Academy of Sciences to study the vehicle handling requirements proposed by the Commission for recreational off-highway vehicles and to prohibit the adoption of any such requirements until the completion of the study.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “ROV In-Depth Exam-
5 ination Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. RECREATIONAL OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE STAND-**
2 **ARDS STUDY.**

3 (a) NO MANDATORY STANDARDS REGARDING PER-
4 FORMANCE OR CONFIGURATION OF ROVs.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Consumer Product
6 Safety Commission shall have no authority to estab-
7 lish any standards concerning the performance or
8 configuration of recreational off-highway vehicles
9 until after the completion of the study required by
10 subsection (b). This prohibition includes a prohibi-
11 tion on the exercise of any authority pursuant to
12 section 27(e) of the Consumer Product Safety Act
13 (15 U.S.C. 2076(e)) to require ROV manufacturers
14 to provide performance and technical data to pro-
15 spective purchasers and to the first purchaser of an
16 ROV for purposes other than resale.

17 (2) VOLUNTARY STANDARDS.—Nothing in this
18 section shall be construed as suggesting that ROVs
19 shall not be manufactured in compliance with appli-
20 cable voluntary standards.

21 (b) STUDY.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall con-
23 tract with the National Academy of Sciences to de-
24 termine—

25 (A) the technical validity of the lateral sta-
26 bility and vehicle handling requirements pro-

1 posed by the Commission in a notice of pro-
2 posed rulemaking published in the Federal Reg-
3 ister November 19, 2014 (79 Fed. Reg. 68964),
4 for purposes of reducing the risk of ROV roll-
5 overs in the off-road environment, including the
6 repeatability and reproducibility of testing for
7 compliance with such requirements;

8 (B) the number of ROV rollovers that
9 would be prevented if the proposed require-
10 ments were adopted;

11 (C) whether there is a technical basis for
12 the proposal to provide information on a point-
13 of-sale hangtag about a vehicle's rollover resist-
14 ance on a progressive scale; and

15 (D) the effect on the utility of ROVs used
16 by the Armed Forces if the proposed require-
17 ments were adopted.

18 (2) CONSULTATION AND DEADLINE FOR RE-
19 PORT.—The National Academy of Sciences shall
20 consult with the National Highway Traffic Safety
21 Administration and the Department of Defense in
22 carrying out the study required by this subsection.
23 The National Academy of Sciences shall complete
24 and transmit to the Commission a report containing

1 the findings of the study not later than two years
2 after the date of enactment of this Act.

3 (3) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Within five days
4 of receiving the report described in paragraph (2)
5 from the National Academy of Sciences, the Com-
6 mission shall transmit the report, along with any
7 comments of the Commission, to the Committee on
8 Energy and Commerce of the House of Representa-
9 tives and to the Committee on Commerce, Science
10 and Transportation of the Senate.

11 (4) CONSIDERATION.—The Commission shall
12 consider the results of the study in any subsequent
13 rulemaking regarding the performance or configura-
14 tion of ROVs, or the provision of point-of-sale infor-
15 mation regarding ROV performance.

16 (c) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section:

17 (1) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”
18 means the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

19 (2) RECREATIONAL OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE.—
20 The term “recreational off-highway vehicle” or
21 “ROV” means a motorized off-highway vehicle de-
22 signed to travel on four or more tires, intended by
23 the manufacturer for recreational use by one or
24 more persons and having the following characteris-
25 tics:

1 (A) A steering wheel for steering control.

2 (B) Foot controls for throttle and service
3 brake.

4 (C) Non-straddle seating.

5 (D) Maximum speed capability greater
6 than 30 miles per hour.

7 (E) Gross vehicle weight rating no greater
8 than 3,750 pounds.

9 (F) Less than 80 inches in overall width,
10 exclusive of accessories.

11 (G) Engine displacement equal to or less
12 than 61 cubic inches for gasoline fueled en-
13 gines.

14 (H) Identification by means of a 17-char-
15 acter personal or vehicle information number.

16 (3) EXCLUSION.—Such term does not include a
17 prototype of a motorized, off-highway, all-terrain ve-
18 hicle or other motorized, off-highway, all-terrain ve-
19 hicle that is intended exclusively for research and de-
20 velopment purposes unless the vehicle is offered for
21 sale.

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