

**House Transportation Committee**  
February 18, 2025

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**Bill: 2<sup>nd</sup> substitute HB 407 – Mini-motorcycle Amendments**

Sponsor: Representative Ashlee Matthews

Foor Sponsor: Undeclared

**UASD Position: Support**

This Bill addresses the use of mini-motorcycles.

Discussion: Representative Matthews explained that the second substitute incorporates suggestions made by Committee members during the discussion of HB 407, which was held in Committee on the 12th. The substitute removes bicycles from the Bill, focusing solely on mini-motorcycles. Under the Bill, an individual is prohibited from operating a mini-motorcycle on public property or highways unless the mini-motorcycle is properly registered for highway use and the operator holds a valid motorcycle license. The operator must also comply with all relevant laws and regulations, including those concerning registration, driver licenses and endorsements, insurance, and the requirement to stop the vehicle when directed by law enforcement. Failure to comply with these provisions could result in a citation and the potential seizure of the vehicle. If an individual has not been issued a driver license and is found guilty of violating these provisions, the Driver License Division will deny their application for a driver license or learner permit for the longer of one year after the conviction or one year after the individual reaches the minimum age required for a driver license or learner permit. Law enforcement officers may also choose to seize and impound the mini-motorcycle. At the request of the Department of Health and Human Services (“DHHS”), the 2<sup>nd</sup> substitute updates the definition of "parent or guardian" to ensure that the state is not held liable for any citations under this law for minors in state custody.

House Amendment 1 removes the provision that would have penalized parents for a child’s repeated violation of the law. While Representative Matthews did not initially support the amendment, she left the decision to the Committee’s discretion. Both the second substitute and House Amendment 1 were adopted by the Committee, which felt the amendment struck a reasonable balance by holding the child accountable without penalizing the parent with a misdemeanor. The Committee believes that, in cases involving children under 16, parents are likely responsible for paying any impound fees and related costs. For minors over the age of 16, the Bill includes provisions that could affect their ability to obtain or maintain a driver’s license. If a mini-motorcycle is impounded, the owner must pay a \$50 administrative fee for the first offense and a \$100 impound fee for any subsequent offenses. The Utah Association of Special Districts and the City of Kearns spoke in support for the policies that increase safety on public roads.

Yeas: 11

Nays: 0

N/V: 1

**Outcome: 2<sup>nd</sup> substitute HB 407, as amended, passed out of the Committee with a favorable recommendation.**

UNASSD