

92GMSSB1294

State of Illinois
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Springfield, Illinois 62706

George H. Ryan
GOVERNOR

July 18, 2001

To the Honorable Members of
The Illinois Senate
92nd General Assembly

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 9(b) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby veto and return Senate Bill 1294 entitled "AN ACT concerning vehicles."

Senate Bill 1294 amends the Illinois Vehicle Code definition of "vehicle" to include all-terrain vehicles or off-highway motorcycle purchased on or after January 1, 1998. The Illinois Vehicle Code defines "all-terrain vehicles" as any motorized off-highway device 50 inches or less in width, having a manufacturer's dry weight of 600 pounds or less, traveling on 3 or more low-pressure tires, designed with a seat or saddle for operator use, and handlebars or steering wheel for steering control.

As a result of expanding the definition of vehicle to include all-terrain vehicles or off-highway motorcycles, this legislation would require the purchaser of these types of vehicles to purchase them from licensed dealers only. Consequently, some retailers will no longer be able to offer these types of vehicles for sale without becoming licensed dealers. Such a requirement may severely restrict the market place and limit the consumer's abilities to locate a licensed dealer in their area.

In addition, it appears that the definition of all-terrain vehicles is broad enough that it could be argued to include riding lawn mowers, thereby necessitating all sellers of these types of vehicles to be licensed dealers as well.

For these reasons, I hereby veto and return Senate Bill 1294.

Sincerely,
George H. Ryan
GOVERNOR