

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis

Date: 4-26-21
To: Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
From: Jon Clark, Deputy Director, OPLA
Re: [LD 944](#), "An Act To Simplify Dual Registration of Snowmobiles and All-terrain Vehicles" (Skolfield)

Bill Summary

This bill allows for dual registration (dual registration number) for an ATV that is also capable of being equipped with tracks for use as a snowmobile (tracked ATV).

- The dual registration annual fee is the combined total of the ATV registration fee and the snowmobile registration fee, plus the \$1 annual fee for each registration issued by the department.
- The dual registration number stickers must be clearly displayed on the front and rear of the vehicle.
- The registration is valid for the same period as the annual ATV registration (one year commencing July 1st of each year, except that a registration issued prior to July 1st but after May 1st is valid from the date of issuance until the end of June the following year.)

Testimony

[4-7-21](#)

The following persons testified in person (see testimony link for written testimony):

Pro: Rep. Skolfield (sponsor)

Con: Bill Swan (DIFW)

NF/NA: none

Additional information:

- DIFW noted that a person can currently register an ATV both as ATV and tracked ATV at the same time (need to register each separately but can do at same time), and both are valid for the same period (expire the end of June). DIFW indicated that creating a new joint registration would add administrative burden.
- DACF noted that the bill would change the way the registration fees are allocated.
 - Brian Bronson, ATV Program Supervisor is available to answer questions

Current law provides for separate treatment of the registration fees for snowmobiles and ATVs:

- For ATVs, specified amounts of the registration fee go to the ATV Recreational Management Fund and the ATV Enforcement Fund [12 MRSA 13155\(5\)](#)
- For Snowmobiles, specified amounts of the registration fee go to a special fund for trail grooming and trail grooming equipment and to the Snowmobile Trail Fund [12 MRSA 13104\(4\)](#)

Under the combined registration proposed by the bill, the registration fee would appear to default to the general provision of [12 MRSA 10206](#), which provides for the distribution of other ATV and snowmobile revenues including for administrative costs, deposit in the General Fund as well a portion to ATV and snowmobile funds.

NOTE: LD 1439 also amends the law relating to ATV registration fees and the allocation of those fees.

- Current law on ATV registration [12 MRSA 13155](#)
- Current law on snowmobile registration: [12 MRSA 13104](#)

[Fiscal Impact](#): not yet determined