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SB-708 Vehicles: off-highway motor vehicles: off-highway motorcycles: sanctioned event permit. (2023-2024)

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Senate Bill No. 708

CHAPTER 446

An act to add Sections 38087.7 and 38231.7 to the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

[Approved by Governor September 22, 2024. Filed with Secretary of State September 22, 2024.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 708, Jones. Vehicles: off-highway motor vehicles: off-highway motorcycles: sanctioned event permit.

Existing law authorizes the Department of Parks and Recreation to issue to a nonresident of this state a special permit to operate an off-highway motor vehicle. Existing law requires the fee for this special permit to be not less than \$20, as established by the department.

This bill would require the department to issue a special permit to California residents to operate certain off-road motorcycles at sanctioned events, as defined. The bill would require the department to establish a fee for this permit, as specified.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 38087.7 is added to the Vehicle Code, to read:

38087.7. (a) Upon payment of the fee specified in Section 38231.7, the Department of Parks and Recreation shall issue an annual special permit, to be known as the "sanctioned event permit," to California residents to operate an off-road motorcycle at a sanctioned event. The sanctioned event permit shall be available for online purchase beginning January 1, 2026.

(b) A sanctioned event permit shall expire on December 31 of the year that the permit is issued.

(c) A sanctioned event permit shall only be available to California residents and for model year 2022 and newer off-road motorcycles that are not eligible for the "Green Sticker" or "Red Sticker" off-highway vehicle identification issued by the department.

(d) A sanctioned event permit shall be displayed on the left side of an off-road motorcycle and shall be visible for inspection at sanctioned events. A sanctioned event permit shall be nonrefundable, nonreplaceable, and void if removed from an off-road motorcycle.

(e) For purposes of this section, "sanctioned event" means an event approved by an agency within its guidelines for off-highway vehicle competition or racing events.

SEC. 2. Section 38231.7 is added to the Vehicle Code, to read:

38231.7. The Department of Parks and Recreation shall set, and may adjust, the amount of the fee to recover the operating and administrative costs of a sanctioned event permit issued pursuant to Section 38087.7. The Department of Parks and Recreation shall deposit fees received pursuant to this section in the Off-Highway Vehicle Trust Fund.