



September 2011

Dear South Carolina Educators:

As the new school year begins, the All-Terrain Vehicle Institute would like to ask South Carolina educators to impress upon students and their parents the importance of all-terrain vehicle safety.

On May 11, 2011, South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley signed new, comprehensive all-terrain vehicle safety legislation into law. This new law, H3562, known as "Chandler's Law," was sponsored by Rep. Harry Ott and Sen. Brad Hutto, and took effect July 1, 2011. We urge the South Carolina school system to relay this important information to your students and their parents.

ATVs are fun and practical, whether used for recreation or one's occupation. The ATV Safety Institute's primary goal is to promote the safe and responsible use of ATVs among the approximately 25 million Americans operating ATVs in the United States, thereby reducing accidents and injuries that may result from improper ATV operation. The safety of all riders, including your students, is our top priority. ATV Safety Institute member companies offer free training, approved by the Consumer Product Safety Commission, to all purchasers of new ATVs. Purchasers of previously owned or non-member brands can receive training for a nominal fee. Those interested in learning more about the ATV Safety Institute's *ATV RiderCourse*SM can visit www.atvsafety.org, or call [\(800\) 877-2887](tel:8008772887) for information about classes in their area.

The ATV Safety Institute's website also provides a free online e-Course that addresses basic ATV safety principles. Adults, teens and children will learn how to apply the "Golden Rules" of ATV riding in an enjoyable, interactive setting.

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission data show that 92 percent of all ATV-related fatalities are the result of warned-against behaviors. These behaviors include: not wearing a helmet, riding on public roads, carrying a passenger on a single-rider ATV, youth riding unsupervised, riding with no formal ATV training, and riding the wrong size ATV. Almost 90 percent of youth ATV-related injury incidents occur when a youth is operating an adult -sized ATV.

Parents literally hold the key to a child's safety. Every new ATV has an ignition key, and when an adult controls the key, they control the ATV's use. Visit our website for ATV safety materials, including a letter to parents on the importance of ATV safety, and distribute the letter at your discretion.

Feel free to contact the ATV Safety Institute should you have any questions or to request safety materials for your students, at [\(800\) 887-2887](tel:8008872887), or visit www.atvsafety.org.

Sincerely,

Tim Buche
President and Chief Executive Officer
ATV Safety Institute