



Dannel P. Malloy

GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

July 2, 2013

The Honorable Denise Merrill
Secretary of the State
30 Trinity Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Madam Secretary:

I hereby return, without my signature, Public Act 13-237, An Act Concerning All-Terrain Vehicles and the Certification of Household Goods Carriers.

Each year, thousands of hikers, cyclists, equestrians, and cross-country skiers, from the very young to senior citizens, use the hundreds of miles of recreational trails on state-owned land. We welcome and encourage outdoor recreation. But we must carefully balance our desire to encourage outdoor recreation with our fundamental mission of protecting our natural resources for future generations. The speed, noise, and power of All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) bring greater potential for degradation or destruction of our unique and delicate natural resources. Accordingly, any new legislation regarding ATV usage must take a deliberate, thoughtful and balanced approach. I do not believe that Public Act 13-237 succeeds.

I urge those interested in changing policies concerning ATV usage on state land to work together with DEEP and other stakeholders to craft a more thoughtful legislative proposal that would support the creation of sustainable ATV trails.

Public Act 13-237 does contain a valuable provision regarding the certification of transporters of household goods, removing unnecessary barriers to investment. That provision deserves to become law and I look forward to seeing such a provision reintroduced in the next legislative session. Unfortunately, because of the provisions concerning ATV usage on state land, I cannot support this bill in its entirety.

For these reasons, I disapprove Public Act 13-237, An Act Concerning All-Terrain Vehicles and the Certification of Household Goods Carriers. Pursuant to Section 15 of Article Fourth of the Constitution of the State of Connecticut, I return it without my signature.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dannel P. Malloy".

Dannel P. Malloy
Governor