

## **RESOLUTION REGARDING OPERATION OF SNOWMOBILES ON COUNTY ROADS**

WHEREAS, the past policy of the Antrim County Road Commission of not authorizing the operation of snowmobiles on county roads has proven burdensome and unworkable for law enforcement personnel,

WHEREAS, the Antrim County Sheriff's Department, representatives of village police departments and DNR Conservation Officers have unanimously requested that roads in the Antrim County road system be opened to snowmobiles,

WHEREAS, all counties which are adjacent to Antrim County have opened their county roads to snowmobiles and this lack of uniformity has created confusion with some snowmobile users and imposed difficulties on law enforcement personnel,

WHEREAS, liability laws have recently changed and now provide greater protection to road commissions which open their roads to snowmobilers,

WHEREAS, the road commission has been presented with DNR data showing no difference in fatalities between counties which do and do not open their roads to snowmobilers,

WHEREAS, over the last few years a change in road commission policy has been requested by the Antrim County Board of Commissioners, various townships, members of the public, law enforcement personnel and various chambers of commerce,

WHEREAS, the road commission recognizes the importance of snowmobile tourism to the economy of northern Michigan and the state, and

WHEREAS, the Antrim County Road Commission has decided that it is now appropriate to revise its policy regarding snowmobiles and county roads,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the operation of snowmobiles is authorized on all county roads in the Antrim County road system which are not normally plowed for vehicular traffic and the right-of-way or shoulder when no right-of-way exists on all snowplowed roads in the Antrim County road system which are outside of incorporated villages.

Passed at Road Commission Meeting on January 17, 1995