

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 510

BY REPRESENTATIVES ORGERON AND MCMAKIN

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Authorizes the town of Golden Meadow in Lafourche Parish to designate certain alternative pathways along state highways for golf carts and low-speed vehicles

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 32:297.1, relative to the designation of alternative pathways for certain  
3 vehicles in the town of Golden Meadow; to authorize the use of golf carts and low-  
4 speed vehicles only on the shoulders of public roads and streets; to provide for  
5 definitions; to establish speed limits; to enforce regulations for operators; to provide  
6 for the registration of golf carts and low-speed vehicles; to authorize a governing  
7 authority to assess a registration fee; and to provide for related matters.

8 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published as provided by

9 Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of Louisiana.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 32:297.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 §297.1. Alternative pathways for golf carts and low-speed vehicles

13 A. As used in this Section, the following terms shall have the following  
14 meanings:

15 (1) "Town" means the town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana.

16 (2) "Governing authority" means the town council of the town of Golden  
17 Meadow, Louisiana.

1           (2) "Golf cart" means an electric four-wheeled vehicle originally intended  
2           for use off-road on golf courses and other green spaces whose maximum speed is  
3           twenty-five miles per hour.

4           (3) "Low-speed vehicle" means any four-wheeled electric or gasoline  
5           powered vehicle that has a top speed greater than twenty miles per hour but less than  
6           twenty five miles per hour and is equipped with headlamps, front and rear turn signal  
7           lamps, tail lamps, stop lamps, reflex reflectors, including one on each side as far to  
8           the rear as practicable, and one red reflector on the rear of the vehicle, an exterior  
9           mirror mounted on the passenger's side of the vehicle or an interior mirror, a parking  
10          brake, a windshield that conforms to the American National Standard Institute's  
11          "Safety Code for Safety Glazing Material for Glazing Motor Vehicles Operating on  
12          Land Highways - Safety Standard", a windshield wiper, speedometer, odometer,  
13          braking for each wheel, a seat belt assembly installed at each designated seating  
14          position, and a vehicle identification number.

15          B.(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the  
16          governing authority may, in its discretion, by ordinance authorize the operation of  
17          golf carts and low-speed vehicles only on the shoulder of a public road and street,  
18          except for Louisiana Highway 3235, having a speed limit of thirty miles or less per  
19          hour. The authorization shall be contained in an ordinance and recorded in the  
20          minutes of the governing authority. The authorization may be accompanied by  
21          conditions not inconsistent with this Section and may be revoked, in whole, or in  
22          part, by the governing authority at any time.

23          (2) Any person operating a golf cart or low-speed vehicle on the shoulder of  
24          a public road or street in the town pursuant to this Section shall be properly licensed  
25          to operate a vehicle upon any highway within this state and shall have in his  
26          possession proof of insurance as required by Part I-A of Chapter 5 of Title 32 of the  
27          Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

28          C.(1) Every golf cart and low-speed vehicle operated pursuant to this Section  
29          shall be required to be registered with the governing authority. The owner of the golf

1 cart or low-speed vehicle shall be issued a registration decal by the governing  
2 authority that must be displayed as determined by the governing authority. The  
3 registration shall remain valid for as long as the registering owner owns the golf cart  
4 or low-speed vehicle.

5 (2) The governing authority may, by ordinance, establish a registration fee  
6 for golf carts and low-speed vehicles. The registration fee shall be retained by the  
7 municipal clerk and deposited into the municipal general fund.

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### DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 510 Engrossed

2025 Regular Session

Orgeron

**Abstract:** Authorizes the town of Golden Meadow, in Lafourche Parish, to designate certain alternative pathways along Department of Transportation and Development highways.

Proposed law defines "town", "governing authority", "golf cart", and "low-speed vehicle".

Proposed law specifies that the governing authority may authorize the operation of golf carts and low-speed vehicles only on the shoulder of a public road and street in the town with a speed limit of 30 mph or less, except on La. Hwy. 3235. Additionally, specifies that the authorization must be included in an ordinance and recorded in the minutes of the governing authority.

Proposed law requires any person operating a golf cart or low-speed vehicle on the shoulder of a public road or street to have in his possession a valid driver's license from this state and proof of insurance in accordance with present law.

Proposed law requires any person operating a golf cart or low-speed vehicle on the shoulder of a public road or street in the town to be properly licensed to operate a vehicle upon any highway within this state and have in his possession proof of insurance as required by present law.

Proposed law requires the owner of a golf cart or low-speed vehicle operated as authorized under proposed law on the shoulder of a street or a public road to register the vehicle with the governing authority. Additionally, requires the owner of the golf cart or low-speed vehicle be issued a registration decal by the governing authority that must be displayed as determined by the governing authority.

Proposed law authorizes the governing authority to establish a registration fee for golf carts and low-speed vehicles by ordinance. Additionally, requires the registration fee be retained by the municipal clerk and deposited into the municipal general fund.

(Adds R.S. 32:297.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works to the original bill:

1. Provide an exception to the application of proposed law authorizing the operation of golf carts and low-speed vehicles for Louisiana Highway 3235.