

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 510

BY REPRESENTATIVES ORGERON, MCMAKIN, NEWELL, AND RISER

AN ACT

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

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of Louisiana.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

25 C.(1) Every golf cart and low-speed vehicle operated pursuant to this Section
26 shall be required to be registered with the governing authority. The owner of the golf
27 cart or low-speed vehicle shall be issued a registration decal by the governing
28 authority that must be displayed as determined by the governing authority. The
29 registration shall remain valid for as long as the registering owner owns the golf cart
30 or low-speed vehicle.

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

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____