

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

HB 353

2024 Regular Session

Geymann

May 29, 2024

To the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives and the Honorable President and Members of the Senate.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, the conferees appointed to confer over the disagreement between the two houses concerning House Bill No. 353 by Representative Geymann, recommend the following concerning the Engrossed bill:

1. That Senate Committee Amendment No. 1 by the Senate Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs (#3219) be rejected.
2. That Senate Committee Amendment No. 2 by the Senate Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs (#3219) be adopted.
3. That the following amendments to the engrossed bill be adopted:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 2, after "R.S. 32:127.4," and before "relative to" insert "127.5, and 127.6,"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 8, after "of law;" and before "and to" insert "to authorize golf carts to cross Louisiana Highway 95, Louisiana Highway 35, Louisiana Highway 1104, and Louisiana Highway 178 in the town of Church Point; to establish requirements for receipt of a utility terrain vehicle permit to cross certain highways in the town of Church Point; to provide for the erection of signage, markers, or traffic control devices reflecting such crossings; to provide for the promulgation of rules and regulations; to provide for exceptions; to authorize golf carts to cross Louisiana Highway 26 in the town of Lake Arthur;"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 2, after line 13, insert the following:

"§127.5. Golf carts; Church Point

A. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, upon final approval of the Department of Transportation and Development, golf carts shall be authorized to cross Louisiana Highway 95, Louisiana Highway 35, Louisiana Highway 1104, and Louisiana Highway 178 on marked or designated paths or crossings for such vehicles within the town limits of Church Point between sunrise and sunset.

B. A copy of the applicant's valid driver's license and liability insurance, a signed liability waiver, and a seventy-five dollar permit fee shall be submitted annually with a utility terrain vehicle permit application as a prerequisite for operating a golf cart when crossing Louisiana Highway 95, Louisiana Highway 35, Louisiana Highway 1104, and Louisiana Highway 178 in the town of Church Point.

C. Signs, markers, or traffic control devices designating paths or crossings for golf carts shall be posted by the Department of Transportation and Development or by the town of Church Point with prior approval from the Department of Transportation and Development. The costs for material, fabrication, mounting posts, and installation of any sign, marker, or traffic control device shall be provided by the town of Church Point.

D. The Department of Transportation and Development shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this Section. The department shall report to the Joint Legislative Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works for review and approval of any rules or regulations promulgated by the department.

E. For the purposes of this Section, the provisions of R.S. 32:53(D) and Chapter 5 of this Title shall not apply, and the provisions relative to equipment of vehicles referenced in Part V of Chapter 1 of this Title shall not apply to golf carts. §127.6. Golf carts; Lake Arthur

A. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, upon final approval of the Department of Transportation and Development, golf carts are authorized to cross Louisiana Highway 26 on marked or designated paths or crossings for such vehicles within the town limits of Lake Arthur between sunrise and sunset. The department shall consult with the governing authority of the town of Lake Arthur to determine which intersection or intersections of Louisiana Highway 26 within the town limits of Lake Arthur would provide the most convenient and safest location for golf cart crossings.

B. A valid driver's license shall be a prerequisite for operating a golf cart when crossing Louisiana Highway 26 in the town of Lake Arthur.

C. Crossing signs may be posted by the Department of Transportation and Development at the request of the governing authority of the town of Lake Arthur.

D. The Department of Transportation and Development, with the consultation and advice of the governing authority of the town of Lake Arthur, shall formulate guidelines to determine where such crossing signs shall be placed in accordance with the provisions of this Section.

E. For the purposes of this Section, the provisions of R.S. 32:53(D), 235(C), 261, and Chapter 5 of this Title shall not apply, and golf carts shall not be considered a vehicle for purposes of defining "equipment" as referenced in Part V of Chapter 1 of this Title."

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry

Senator Joseph Bouie Jr.

Representative Brett F. Geymann

Senator Bob Hensgens

Representative Troy D. Romero

Senator Jeremy P. Stine

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)]

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

HB 353

2024 Regular Session

Geymann

Keyword and oneliner of the instrument as it left the House

HIGHWAYS: Authorizes golf carts to cross certain Louisiana highways within the city of Westlake

Report rejects Senate amendments which would have:

1. Added authorization for the police chief in the city of Westlake to set hours for golf cart crossings.

Report amends the bill to:

1. Authorize golf carts to cross La. Hwy. 95, La. Hwy 35, La. Hwy 1104, and La. Hwy 178 in the town of Church Point.
2. Authorize golf carts to cross La. Hwy. 26 in the town of Lake Arthur;

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

Proposed law authorizes golf carts to cross La. Hwy. 378 at McKinley St. and at La. Highway 379 at Hilma St. and Gray St. on certain marked, designated paths, or crossings in the city of Westlake between sunrise and sunset.

Proposed law provides that a valid driver's license is a prerequisite for operating a golf cart when crossing La. Hwy. 378 and La. Hwy. 379.

Proposed law requires the Dept. of Transportation and Development (DOTD) to post crossing signs at the request of the governing authority of the city of Westlake. Further requires the DOTD, with the consultation and advice of the city governing authority, to formulate guidelines to determine where such crossing signs are to be placed.

Proposed law provides that certain provisions of present law relative to the safe operation of a vehicle and vehicle inspection requirements are not applicable to proposed law. Additionally provides that golf carts shall not be considered a vehicle for purposes of defining "equipment" pursuant to present law.

Proposed law authorizes golf carts to cross La. Hwy. 95, La. Hwy. 35, La. Hwy. 1104, and La. Hwy. 178 on marked or designated paths or crossings within the town limits of Church Point between sunrise and sunset.

Proposed law requires that a valid driver's license, proof of liability insurance, a signed liability waiver, and a \$75 permit fee, accompanied by a utility terrain vehicle permit application, be submitted and approved annually prior to operating a golf cart while crossing La. Hwy. 95, La. Hwy. 35, La. Hwy. 1104, or La. Hwy. 178 in the town of Church Point.

Proposed law requires that signs, markers, or traffic control devices designating paths or crossings for golf carts be posted by the DOTD or by the town of Church Point with prior approval from the DOTD.

Proposed law requires the town of Church Point to provide the costs for materials, fabrication, mounting posts, and installation of any marker or traffic control device.

Proposed law requires the DOTD to promulgate rules and regulations to implement proposed law and further requires the DOTD to report to the Jt. Legislative Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works for review and approval of any prospective rules and regulations.

Proposed law excepts the provisions of proposed law from certain requirements contained in present law pertaining to inspection stickers, placement of traffic control signs, prohibitions against use of a road, and provisions related to the motor vehicle safety responsibility law.

Proposed law authorizes golf carts to cross La. Hwy. 26 on marked or designated paths or crossings within the town limits of Lake Arthur between sunrise and sunset.

Proposed law requires a valid driver's license when operating a golf cart while crossing La. Hwy. 26 in the town of Lake Arthur.

Proposed law allows crossing signs to be posted by the DOTD at the request of the governing authority of the town of Lake Arthur.

Proposed law requires the DOTD, with the consultation and advice of the governing authority of the town of Lake Arthur, to formulate guidelines to determine where such crossing signs are to be placed.

Proposed law excepts the provisions of proposed law from certain requirements contained in present law pertaining to inspection stickers, placement of traffic control signs, prohibitions against use of a road, and provisions related to the motor vehicle safety responsibility law.

(Adds R.S. 32:127.4, 127.5, 127.6)