

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 503

BY REPRESENTATIVE ORGERON

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 32:297.1(A)(1), (B), and (C) and to enact R.S. 32:297.1(A)(5),  
3 relative to the use of utility terrain vehicles on roadways in Golden Meadow; to  
4 authorize the use of utility terrain vehicles on the shoulders of public roads and  
5 streets of Golden Meadow; to provide for definitions; and to provide for related  
6 matters.

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

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 32:297.1(A)(1), (B), and (C) are hereby amended and reenacted and  
12 R.S. 32:297.1(A)(5) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

13 §297.1. Alternative pathways for golf carts, utility terrain vehicles, and low-speed  
14 vehicles; Golden Meadow

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

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

20 \* \* \*

21 (5)(a) "Utility terrain vehicle" means any recreational motor vehicle  
22 designed for and capable of travel over designated roads, with a minimum width of

1           fifty inches but not exceeding seventy-four inches and a minimum weight of at least  
 2           seven hundred pounds but not exceeding three thousand five hundred pounds.  
 3           "Utility terrain vehicle" shall include those vehicles not equipped with a certification  
 4           label as required by 49 CFR Part 567.4. A "utility terrain vehicle" or "UTV" also  
 5           means a recreational off-highway vehicle or ROV.

6           (b) "Utility terrain vehicle" does not include golf carts, vehicles specially  
 7           designed to carry a disabled person, or vehicles otherwise registered under R.S.  
 8           32:299.

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

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

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

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

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_