

1 AN ACT relating to standards for the operation of golf carts on roadways.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 189.286 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) As used in this section:

5 (a) "Golf cart" means any self-propelled vehicle that:

- 6 1. Is designed for the transportation of players or maintaining equipment
7 on a golf course, while engaged in the playing of golf, supervising the
8 play of golf, or maintaining the condition of the grounds on a golf
9 course;
- 10 2. Has a minimum of four (4) wheels;
- 11 3. Is designed to operate at a speed of not more than thirty-five (35) miles
12 per hour;
- 13 4. Is designed to carry not more than six (6) persons, including the driver;
- 14 5. Has a maximum gross vehicle weight of two thousand five hundred
15 (2,500) pounds;
- 16 6. Has a maximum rated payload capacity of one thousand two hundred
17 (1,200) pounds; and
- 18 7. ***Is equipped with the following:***
 - 19 ***a. Headlamps;***
 - 20 ***b. Tail lamps;***
 - 21 ***c. Stop lamps;***
 - 22 ***d. Front and rear turn signals;***
 - 23 ***e. One (1) red reflex reflector on each side as far to the rear as***
24 ***practicable, and one (1) red reflex reflector on the rear;***
 - 25 ***f. An exterior mirror mounted on the driver's side of the vehicle***
26 ***and either an exterior mirror mounted on the passenger's side of***
27 ***the vehicle or an interior mirror;***

- 1 **g. A parking brake;**
- 2 **h. For each designated seating position, a seatbelt assembly that**
- 3 **conforms to the federal motor vehicle safety standard provided in**
- 4 **49 C.F.R. sec. 571.209; and**
- 5 **i. A horn that meets the requirements of KRS 189.080**~~[Meets the~~
- 6 ~~federal motor vehicle safety standards for low speed vehicles set~~
- 7 ~~forth in 49 C.F.R. sec. 571.500]; and~~
- 8 (b) "Local government" means a city, county, charter county government, urban-
- 9 county government, consolidated local government, unified local government,
- 10 or special district.
- 11 (2) The governing body of a local government may authorize and regulate the operation
- 12 of a golf cart on any public roadway under its jurisdiction if the local government
- 13 adopts an ordinance specifying each roadway that is open for golf cart use.
- 14 (3) An ordinance created under subsection (2) of this section shall require that a golf
- 15 cart operated on a designated public roadway:
- 16 (a) Be issued a permit for the golf cart by the local government;
- 17 (b) Display a sticker or permit that identifies that the golf cart is allowed to be
- 18 operated on specific roadways within the local government; and
- 19 (c) Be inspected by a certified inspector designated by the county sheriff and
- 20 certified through the Department of Vehicle Regulation to ensure that the golf
- 21 cart complies with the requirements of this section. The inspection fee under
- 22 this paragraph shall not exceed five dollars (\$5) with an additional fee not to
- 23 exceed ten dollars (\$10) per trip charged if it becomes necessary for the
- 24 certified inspector to travel to the site of the golf cart rather than having the
- 25 golf cart brought to the sheriff's inspection area.
- 26 (4) A person may operate a golf cart on a public roadway pursuant to subsection (2) of
- 27 this section if:

- 1 (a) The posted speed limit of the designated public roadway is thirty-five (35)
2 miles per hour or less;
- 3 (b) The operator of the golf cart does not cross a roadway at an intersection where
4 the roadway being crossed has a posted speed limit of more than thirty-five
5 (35) miles per hour;
- 6 (c) The operator has a valid operator's license in his or her possession;
- 7 (d) The golf cart is being operated between sunrise and sunset; and
- 8 (e) The golf cart displays a slow-moving vehicle emblem in compliance with
9 KRS 189.820.
- 10 (5) A golf cart operating on a public roadway under subsection (2) of this section shall
11 be insured in compliance with KRS 304.39-080 by the owner or operator, and the
12 proof of insurance shall be inside the golf cart at all times of operation on a public
13 roadway.
- 14 (6) Any person operating a golf cart on a public roadway under the provisions of this
15 section shall be subject to the traffic regulations of KRS Chapter 189.
- 16 (7) A golf cart operating on a public roadway designated by a local government under
17 subsection (2) of this section is not considered to be motor a vehicle and is exempt
18 from:
- 19 (a) Title requirements of KRS 186.020;
- 20 (b) Vehicle registration requirements of KRS 186.050; and
- 21 (c) Emissions compliance certificates pursuant to KRS 224.20-720.
- 22 (8) A local government may adopt more stringent local ordinances governing golf cart
23 safety equipment and operation than specified in this section.
- 24 (9) The Transportation Cabinet may prohibit the operation of a golf cart on a public
25 roadway designated under subsection (2) of this section that crosses a state-
26 maintained highway under its jurisdiction if it determines that such prohibition is
27 necessary in the interest of public safety.

- 1 (10) The provisions of this section shall not apply to a golf cart that is not used on a
- 2 public roadway except to cross a roadway while following a golf cart path on a golf
- 3 course.