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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 785 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY RAFFERTY, GREENLEAF, SCARNATI, FOLMER, BARTOLOTTA,  
STEFANO AND DINNIMAN, JUNE 19, 2017

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AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, OCTOBER 16, 2017

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, in general provisions, further providing for  
3 definitions; in registration of vehicles, further providing  
4 for vehicles exempt from registration; and providing for  
5 operation of golf carts.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Section 102 of Title 75 of the Pennsylvania  
9 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a definition to read:

10 § 102. Definitions.

11 Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent  
12 provisions of this title which are applicable to specific  
13 provisions of this title, the following words and phrases when  
14 used in this title shall have, unless the context clearly  
15 indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this section:

16 \* \* \*

17 "Golf cart." A self-propelled motor vehicle designed and  
18 manufactured for the transportation of persons or equipment for

1 sporting, maintenance or recreational purposes that is not  
2 capable of exceeding a speed of 20 miles per hour.

3 \* \* \*

4 Section 2. Section 1302(3) and (14) of Title 75 are amended

5 AND THE SECTION IS AMENDED BY ADDING A PARAGRAPH to read: <--

6 § 1302. Vehicles exempt from registration.

7 The following types of vehicles are exempt from registration:

8 \* \* \*

9 (3) Any self-propelled golf cart used for the  
10 transportation of persons [engaged in the game of golf] or  
11 equipment for sporting, maintenance or recreational purpose  
12 while crossing [any] certain public [highway during any game  
13 of golf] highways.

14 \* \* \*

15 (14) Any vehicle used for golf course [or] maintenance,  
16 resort maintenance or college, university or seminary campus  
17 maintenance when such vehicle does not travel on public roads  
18 in excess of one mile and the property on both sides of the  
19 public road is owned by said golf course [or], resort or  
20 college, university or seminary.

21 \* \* \*

22 (23) ANY ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE EXEMPT FROM REGISTRATION <--  
23 UNDER CHAPTER 77 (RELATING TO SNOWMOBILES AND ALL-TERRAIN  
24 VEHICLES) AND OPERATED AS AN EMERGENCY VEHICLE BY A POLICE OR  
25 FIRE DEPARTMENT OR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY WHEN THE  
26 VEHICLE DOES NOT TRAVEL ON PUBLIC HIGHWAYS IN EXCESS OF TWO  
27 MILES AND IS PRIMARILY FOR OFF-HIGHWAY USE AND ONLY OPERATED  
28 INCIDENTALLY UPON THE HIGHWAY. AN ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE SO  
29 OPERATED SHALL COMPLY WITH SECTION 4571 (VISUAL AND AUDIBLE  
30 SIGNALS ON EMERGENCY VEHICLES).

1 Section 3. Title 75 is amended by adding a chapter to read:

2 CHAPTER 77A

3 OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS

4 Sec.

5 77A01. Operation on highways.

6 77A02. Designation of golf-cart crossings.

7 77A03. Operation by persons ~~between 12 and~~ UNDER 16 years of <--  
8 age.

9 § 77A01. Operation on highways.

10 (a) General rule.--Except as DESCRIBED UNDER SECTION 1302(3) <--  
11 OR (14) (RELATING TO VEHICLES EXEMPT FROM REGISTRATION) OR  
12 otherwise provided under this chapter, it is unlawful to operate  
13 a golf cart on any highway.

14 (b) Crossing highway.--A golf cart may make a direct  
15 crossing of a highway upon compliance with the following  
16 requirements:

17 (1) The crossing is made at an angle of approximately 90  
18 degrees to the direction of the highway and at a place where  
19 no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing.

20 (2) The golf cart is brought to a complete stop before  
21 crossing the shoulder or main-traveled way of the highway.

22 (3) The driver yields the right-of-way to all oncoming  
23 traffic.

24 § 77A02. Designation of golf-cart crossings.

25 (a) General rule.--The department on State-designated  
26 highways and a local authority on highways within the local  
27 authority's jurisdiction may designate a crossing within the  
28 jurisdiction as a golf-cart crossing with official traffic-  
29 control devices for the crossings.

30 (b) Posting notices.--Adequate notice of golf-cart crossing

1 designations shall be sufficiently and prominently displayed.

2 (c) Golf-cart crossing costs.--If a golf-cart crossing is  
3 beneficial to residents of a homeowners association, a private  
4 college or other private entity, the homeowners association,  
5 private college or other private entity shall be responsible for  
6 costs incurred by the department or political subdivision.

7 (d) Liability.--Liability may not be imposed on the  
8 department or any other State agency or any political  
9 subdivision of this Commonwealth as a result of designating any  
10 crossing over any highway as a golf-cart crossing as provided  
11 under subsection (a).

12 § 77A03. Operation by persons ~~between 12 and~~ UNDER 16 years of <--  
13 age.

14 A A PERSON UNDER 12 YEARS OF AGE MAY NOT OPERATE A GOLF CART. <--  
15 A person between 12 and 16 years of age may not drive a golf  
16 cart across any highway unless the person is under the direct  
17 supervision of a person 18 years of age or older.

18 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days.