

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 1199

PRINTER NO. 1773

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

June 15, 2020

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Aument

DESCRIPTION

Senate Bill 1199 amends Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes to further provide for Personal Delivery Devices (PDD) in pedestrian areas.

This legislation provides for the following:

- Amends the definition of “pedestrian” to include any of the following:
 - An individual afoot; and
 - An individual with a mobility-related disability on a self-propelled wheelchair or an electrical mobility device operated by and designated for the exclusive use of an individual with a mobility-related disability.
- Amends § 8503 (relating to highly automated vehicle advisory committee) by adding one member representing a business entity that operates personal delivery devices;
- Expands the powers of the committee to include advising and consulting with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (department) on PDDs;
- Adds a new § 8504 (relating to personal delivery devices);
- Creates the following definitions:
 - “Agent” is a director, officer, employee or other person authorized to act on behalf of a business entity;
 - “Business entity” is a legal entity, including a for-profit corporation, nonprofit corporation, partnership or sole proprietorship, registered with the Pennsylvania Department of State or an educational institution;
 - “Pedestrian area” is a sidewalk, crosswalk, safety zone or similar area for pedestrians; and
 - “Personal delivery device” is a device that:
 - 1) Is manufactured for transporting cargo and goods in a pedestrian area, trafficway or on the berm or shoulder of a highway or roadway;
 - 2) Is equipped with an automated driving system, including software and hardware;

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- 3) Is not capable of exceeding a speed of 12 miles per hour in a pedestrian area or trafficway;
 - 4) Is not capable of exceeding a speed of 25 miles per hour on the berm or shoulder of a highway or roadway; and
 - 5) weighs less than 550 pounds without cargo and goods.
- Provides for authorized operators of personal delivery devices;
 - Provides for certain PDD operation requirements;
 - Provides for certain areas of operation of PDDs;
 - Provides for certain required equipment on PDDs;
 - Restricts local authorities from regulating the operation of PDDs beyond the provisions in this legislation;
 - Stipulates a business entity and an agent of a business entity shall maintain an insurance policy that includes general liability coverage of not less than \$100,000 for damages arising from the lawful operation of the PDD;
 - Provides that any person illegally operating a PDD upon a highway or roadway or crossing a highway shall be subject to the penalties under section 6502 (relating to summary offenses); and
 - Provides that a PDD shall be regulated as a pedestrian and shall not be deemed a vehicle.

This act shall take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

It is assumed that there would be a minimal number of violations of this act for not maintaining liability insurance, illegal operation of a PDD or other violations. Additionally, PDDs are not required to be registered with the department; therefore, no additional registration fees would be collected.

According to the department, enactment of this legislation will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.