
 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. **573** Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY FLECK, BROOKS, COHEN, D. COSTA, DENLINGER,
EVANKOVICH, EVERETT, GILLEN, GRELL, HARHAI, C. HARRIS,
HENNESSEY, KAUFFMAN, M. K. KELLER, KORTZ, R. MILLER, MURT,
O'BRIEN, READSHAW, SCHLOSSBERG, STURLA, YOUNGBLOOD,
CALTAGIRONE AND BRIGGS, FEBRUARY 8, 2013

SENATOR RAFFERTY, TRANSPORTATION, AS AMENDED, IN SENATE,
SEPTEMBER 23, 2014

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in preliminary provisions, further providing ~~for~~ <--
3 for definitions; IN FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY, PROVIDING FOR <--
4 NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC VEHICLES; in special vehicles and
5 pedestrians, providing for operation of pedalcycles with
6 electric assist and for regulation and operation of <--
7 ~~neighborhood electric vehicles; in other required equipment,~~
8 ~~further providing for slow moving vehicle emblem; and, in~~
9 inspection of vehicles, further providing for operation of
10 vehicle without official certificate of inspection.

11 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
12 hereby enacts as follows:

13 Section 1. The definition of "pedalcycle" in section 102 of
14 Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended
15 and the section is amended by adding definitions to read:

16 § 102. Definitions.

17 Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent
18 provisions of this title which are applicable to specific
19 provisions of this title, the following words and phrases when

1 used in this title shall have, unless the context clearly
2 indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this section:

3 * * *

4 "Neighborhood electric vehicle." A four-wheeled electric
5 vehicle that has a maximum design speed of not less than 20
6 miles per hour and of not more than 25 miles per hour and that
7 complies with the Federal safety standards established in 49 CFR
8 571.500 (relating to standard no. 500; low-speed vehicles).

9 * * *

10 "Pedalcycle." A vehicle propelled solely by human-powered
11 pedals or a pedalcycle with electric assist. The term does not
12 mean a three-wheeled human-powered pedal-driven vehicle with a
13 main driving wheel 20 inches in diameter or under and primarily
14 designed for children six years of age or younger.

15 "Pedalcycle with electric assist." A vehicle weighing not
16 more than 100 pounds with two or three wheels more than 11
17 inches in diameter, manufactured or assembled with an electric
18 motor system rated at not more than 750 watts and equipped with
19 operable pedals and capable of a speed not more than 20 miles
20 per hour on a level surface when powered by the motor source
21 only. The term does not include a device specifically designed
22 for use by persons with disabilities.

23 * * *

24 Section 2. Title 75 is amended by adding ~~a section~~ SECTIONS <--
25 to read:

26 § 1788. NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC VEHICLES. <--

27 (A) MINIMUM COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS.--A NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC
28 VEHICLE THAT IS REGISTERED OR OPERATED ON A HIGHWAY SHALL BE
29 COVERED BY FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,000 FOR
30 INJURY TO ONE PERSON IN ANY ONE ACCIDENT, IN THE AMOUNT OF

1 \$30,000 FOR INJURY TO TWO OR MORE PERSONS IN ANY ONE ACCIDENT
2 AND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000 FOR DAMAGE OF PROPERTY OF OTHERS IN
3 ANY ONE ACCIDENT. THE FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY SHALL BE IN A
4 FORM ACCEPTABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT.

5 (B) EXEMPTION FROM OTHER COVERAGES.--FOR A NEIGHBORHOOD
6 ELECTRIC VEHICLE, NO PERSON SHALL BE REQUIRED TO PURCHASE AND NO
7 INSURER SHALL BE REQUIRED TO OFFER OR MAKE AVAILABLE ANY OTHER
8 COVERAGES CONTAINED IN THIS CHAPTER.

9 § 3514. Operation of pedalcycles with electric assist.

10 No person under 16 years of age shall operate a pedalcycle
11 with electric assist.

12 ~~Section 3. Chapter 35 of Title 75 is amended by adding a~~ <--
13 ~~subchapter to read:~~

14 SUBCHAPTER F

15 OPERATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC VEHICLES

16 Sec.

17 ~~3591. Scope of subchapter.~~

18 ~~3592. Required equipment.~~

19 ~~3593. Operation on certain highways or roadways.~~

20 ~~3594. Licensing, financial responsibility, titling and~~
21 ~~registration.~~

22 ~~3595. Seating limitation.~~

23 ~~3596. Hours of operation.~~

24 ~~§ 3591. Scope of subchapter.~~

25 ~~This subchapter applies to the operation of neighborhood~~
26 ~~electric vehicles on certain highways or roadways in this~~
27 ~~Commonwealth.~~

28 ~~§ 3592. Required equipment.~~

29 ~~(a) General rule. A neighborhood electric vehicle operated~~
30 ~~upon any highway or roadway in this Commonwealth shall be~~

1 ~~maintained in proper condition and comply with the equipment~~
2 ~~requirements and standards as set forth in 49 CFR § 571.500~~
3 ~~(relating to standard No. 500; low speed vehicles). A~~
4 ~~neighborhood electric vehicle operating on any highway or~~
5 ~~roadway shall have a slow moving vehicle emblem affixed in a~~
6 ~~conspicuous place on the rear of the vehicle consistent with~~
7 ~~section 4529 (relating to slow moving vehicle emblem). A~~
8 ~~neighborhood electric vehicle operated upon any highway or~~
9 ~~roadway in this Commonwealth shall be equipped with the~~
10 ~~following additional equipment:~~

11 ~~(1) Brakes.~~

12 ~~(2) An odometer.~~

13 ~~(3) A speedometer.~~

14 ~~(4) The original manufacturer's vehicle identification~~
15 ~~number die stamped upon the body or frame, or both, of the~~
16 ~~vehicle or the original manufacturer's vehicle identification~~
17 ~~number die stamped upon the engine or motor of the vehicle.~~

18 ~~(5) Pneumatic tires.~~

19 ~~(6) Windshield wipers.~~

20 ~~(b) Exemption. A neighborhood electric vehicle shall be~~
21 ~~exempt from equipment requirements not enumerated in this~~
22 ~~subchapter.~~

23 ~~(c) Penalties. Any person who operates a neighborhood~~
24 ~~electric vehicle without the equipment prescribed in this~~
25 ~~section shall be subject to the penalties under section 6502~~
26 ~~(relating to summary offenses).~~

27 ~~§ 3593. Operation on certain highways or roadways.~~

28 ~~(a) General rule. Notwithstanding any other provision of~~
29 ~~Chapter 33 (relating to rules of the road in general), a~~
30 ~~neighborhood electric vehicle may be operated only on a highway~~

~~1 or roadway with a speed limit of 25 miles per hour or less. A
2 neighborhood electric vehicle may not enter an intersection with
3 a highway or roadway with a posted speed limit of more than 25
4 miles per hour, or cross a highway or roadway with a posted
5 speed limit of more than 25 miles per hour, unless traffic on
6 that highway or roadway is stopped by a traffic control signal
7 at the point the highway is crossed. A neighborhood electric
8 vehicle may not cross a divided highway or limited access
9 highway.~~

~~10 (b) Violation. Any person operating a neighborhood electric
11 vehicle upon a highway or roadway or crossing a highway or
12 roadway in violation of this section shall be subject to the
13 penalties under section 6502 (relating to summary offenses).
14 § 3594. Licensing, financial responsibility, titling and
15 registration.~~

~~16 A neighborhood electric vehicle shall be considered a
17 passenger car for the purposes of Part II (relating to title,
18 registration and licensing) and section 4581 (relating to
19 restraint systems).~~

~~20 § 3595. Seating limitation.~~

~~21 A neighborhood electric vehicle may not be operated at a time
22 in which the number of passengers exceeds the number of
23 available safety belts in the vehicle.~~

~~24 § 3596. Hours of operation.~~

~~25 A neighborhood electric vehicle shall not be operated from
26 sunset to sunrise or during periods of decreased visibility.~~

~~27 Section 4. Section 4529(a) of Title 75 is amended to read:~~

~~28 § 4529. Slow moving vehicle emblem.~~

~~29 (a) General rule. All implements of husbandry, commercial
30 implements of husbandry, neighborhood electric vehicles and~~

1 ~~special mobile equipment designed to operate at 25 miles per~~
2 ~~hour or less and all animal drawn vehicles shall, when traveling~~
3 ~~on a highway, display on the rear of the vehicle a reflective~~
4 ~~slow moving vehicle emblem as specified in regulations of the~~
5 ~~department. The use of the slow moving vehicle emblem shall be~~
6 ~~in addition to any other lighting devices or equipment required~~
7 ~~by this title.~~

8 * * *

9 Section ~~5~~ 3. Section 4703(b) of Title 75 is amended by <--
10 adding a paragraph to read:

11 § 4703. Operation of vehicle without official certificate of
12 inspection.

13 * * *

14 (b) Exceptions.--Subsection (a) does not apply to:

15 * * *

16 (14) A neighborhood electric vehicle.

17 Section ~~6~~ 4. This act shall take effect as follows: <--

18 (1) The following provisions shall take effect ~~in 180~~ <--
19 ~~days~~ MAY 1, 2015: <--

20 (i) The addition of the definition of "neighborhood
21 electric vehicle" in 75 Pa.C.S. § 102.

22 (ii) The addition of 75 Pa.C.S. Ch. ~~35 Subch. F.~~ <--

23 ~~(iii) The amendment of 75 Pa.C.S. § 4529(a).~~

24 ~~(iv) The addition of 75 Pa.C.S. § 4703(b)(14) §§~~ <--
25 1788 AND 4703(B)(14).

26 (2) The remainder of this act shall take effect in 60
27 days.