
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 631 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY ROTHMAN, KINSEY, BERNSTINE, MILLARD, RYAN, JAMES,
ZIMMERMAN, DONATUCCI, SCHLOSSBERG, ELLIS, MARSHALL, MARKOSEK,
HILL-EVANS, WALSH, DAWKINS, METZGAR, TOEPEL, BENNINGHOFF,
PYLE, BURNS, BURGOS, HERSHEY, HARRIS, IRVIN AND KAUFER,
FEBRUARY 28, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, FEBRUARY 28, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in general provisions, further providing for
3 definitions; in certificate of title and security interests,
4 further providing for vehicles not requiring certificate of
5 title; in registration of vehicles, further providing for
6 vehicles exempt from registration; in rules of the road in
7 general, further providing for prohibitions in specified
8 places; in special vehicles and pedestrians, providing for
9 electric low-speed scooters; and, in powers of Department of
10 Transportation and local authorities, further providing for
11 specific powers of Department of Transportation and local
12 authorities.

13 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
14 hereby enacts as follows:

15 Section 1. The definition of "motor vehicle" in section 102
16 of Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended
17 and the section is amended by adding a definition to read:

18 § 102. Definitions.

19 Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent
20 provisions of this title which are applicable to specific
21 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 "Electric low-speed scooter." As follows:

5 (1) A device weighing less than 100 pounds that:

6 (i) has handlebars and an electric motor;

7 (ii) has a floorboard which can be stood upon while
8 riding;

9 (iii) has two or three wheels;

10 (iv) is solely powered by the electric motor or
11 human power, or both; and

12 (v) has a maximum speed of not more than 20 miles
13 per hour on a paved level surface when powered solely by
14 the electric motor.

15 (2) The term does not include a pedalcycle with electric
16 assist, an electric personal assistive mobility device, a
17 motorcycle or a moped.

18 * * *

19 "Motor vehicle." A vehicle which is self-propelled except an
20 electric personal assistive mobility device, an electric low-
21 speed scooter or a vehicle which is propelled solely by human
22 power.

23 * * *

24 Section 2. Sections 1102 and 1302 of Title 75 are amended by
25 adding paragraphs to read:

26 § 1102. Vehicles not requiring certificate of title.

27 No certificate of title is required for:

28 * * *

29 (13) An electric low-speed scooter.

30 § 1302. Vehicles exempt from registration.

1 The following types of vehicles are exempt from registration:

2 * * *

3 (24) An electric low-speed scooter.

4 Section 3. Section 3353(a)(1)(ii) of Title 75 is amended to
5 read:

6 § 3353. Prohibitions in specified places.

7 (a) General rule.--Except when necessary to avoid conflict
8 with other traffic or to protect the safety of any person or
9 vehicle or in compliance with law or the directions of a police
10 officer or official traffic-control device, no person shall:

11 (1) Stop, stand or park a vehicle:

12 * * *

13 (ii) On a sidewalk except that a pedalcycle may be
14 parked as provided in section [3509(b)(2)] 3509.

15 * * *

16 Section 4. Title 75 is amended by adding a section to read:
17 § 3515. Electric low-speed scooters.

18 (a) General rule.--Every person operating an electric low-
19 speed scooter shall be granted all of the rights and shall be
20 subject to all of the duties applicable to the operator of a
21 pedalcycle by this subchapter, except as to those provisions of
22 this subchapter which by their nature can have no application.

23 (b) Age and speed requirement.--No person under the age
24 sufficient to operate an automobile shall operate an electric
25 low-speed scooter and no person shall operate an electric low-
26 speed scooter at a speed greater than 15 miles per hour.

27 (c) Lamps and reflectors.--Every electric low-speed scooter
28 when operated between sunset and sunrise shall be equipped on
29 the front with a lamp which emits a beam of white light intended
30 to illuminate the scooter operator's path and visible from a

1 distance of at least 500 feet in front, a red reflector facing
2 to the rear which is visible at least 500 feet to the rear and a
3 reflector on each side.

4 (d) Electric low-speed scooters prohibited on freeways.--No
5 person shall operate an electric low-speed scooter on a freeway.

6 (e) Application of subchapter.--The provisions of this
7 subchapter apply whenever an electric low-speed scooter is
8 operated or parked in this Commonwealth, subject to the
9 exceptions stated in subsection (a).

10 Section 5. Section 6109(a) of Title 75 is amended by adding
11 a paragraph to read:

12 § 6109. Specific powers of department and local authorities.

13 (a) Enumeration of police powers.--The provisions of this
14 title shall not be deemed to prevent the department on State-
15 designated highways and local authorities on streets or highways
16 within their physical boundaries from the reasonable exercise of
17 their police powers. The following are presumed to be reasonable
18 exercises of police power:

19 * * *

20 (25) Regulating the use of electric low-speed scooters
21 consistent with the regulation of pedalcycles.

22 * * *

23 Section 6. The amendment or addition of the definitions of
24 "electric low-speed scooter" and "motor vehicle" in 75 Pa.C.S. §
25 102 and 75 Pa.C.S. §§ 1102(13), 1302(24), 3353(a)(1)(ii), 3515
26 and 6109(a)(25) shall apply:

27 (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), beginning 120
28 days after the effective date of this section.

29 (2) Beginning on the effective date of this section, in
30 a municipality which, prior to the effective date of this

1 section, has enacted an ordinance authorizing the use of
2 electric low-speed scooters that is consistent with the
3 provisions of 75 Pa.C.S. § 3515.
4 Section 7. This act shall take effect immediately.