

CHAPTER 2023-67

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 949

An act relating to operation of a golf cart; amending s. 316.212, F.S.; authorizing a water control district to designate certain roads for use by golf carts; requiring county approval before making such a designation; prohibiting a person under 18 years of age from operating a golf cart on certain roadways unless he or she possesses a valid learner's driver license or valid driver license; prohibiting a person 18 years of age or older from operating a golf cart on certain roadways unless he or she possesses a valid form of government-issued photographic identification; providing a penalty; amending s. 322.04, F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsections (1) and (7) of section 316.212, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (9) of that section is republished, to read:

316.212 Operation of golf carts on certain roadways.—The operation of a golf cart upon the public roads or streets of this state is prohibited except as provided herein:

(1) A golf cart may be operated only upon a county road that has been designated by a county, a municipal street that has been designated by a municipality, ~~or a two-lane county road located within the jurisdiction of a municipality designated by that municipality, or a road that is owned and maintained by a water control district and has been designated by that water control district,~~ for use by golf carts. ~~Before~~ ~~Prior to~~ making such a designation, the responsible local governmental entity must first determine that golf carts may safely travel on or cross the public road or street, considering factors including the speed, volume, and character of motor vehicle traffic using the road or street, ~~and if such designation is to be made by a water control district, the district must also receive approval from the county in which the road to be designated is located.~~ Upon a determination that golf carts may be safely operated on a designated road or street, the responsible governmental entity shall post appropriate signs to indicate that such operation is allowed.

(7) A golf cart may not be operated on public roads or streets by ~~a~~ any person:

~~(a) Who is under 18 years of age unless he or she possesses a valid learner's driver license or valid driver license.~~

~~(b) Who is 18 years of age or older unless he or she possesses a valid form of government-issued photographic identification the age of 14.~~

(9) A violation of this section is a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable pursuant to chapter 318 as a moving violation for infractions of subsections (1)-(5) or a local ordinance corresponding thereto and enacted pursuant to subsection (8), or punishable pursuant to chapter 318 as a nonmoving violation for infractions of subsection (6), subsection (7), or a local ordinance corresponding thereto and enacted pursuant to subsection (8).

Section 2. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of section 322.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

322.04 Persons exempt from obtaining driver license.—

(1) The following persons are exempt from obtaining a driver license:

(e) A Any person 18 years of age or older operating a golf cart, as defined in s. 320.01, which is operated in accordance with ~~the provisions of s. 316.212.~~

Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2023.

Approved by the Governor May 11, 2023.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 11, 2023.