

HOUSE BILL No. 4945

September 13, 2017, Introduced by Rep. Miller and referred to the Committee on
Transportation and Infrastructure.

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled
"Michigan vehicle code,"
by amending section 657a (MCL 257.657a), as added by 2014 PA 491.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 657a. (1) A village or city having a population of fewer
2 than 30,000 individuals based upon the 2010 decennial census may by
3 resolution allow the operation of golf carts on the streets of that
4 village or city, subject to the requirements of this section. A
5 township having a population of fewer than 30,000 individuals based
6 upon the 2010 decennial census may by resolution, unless
7 disapproved by the county board of commissioners under subsection
8 (3), allow the operation of golf carts on the streets of that
9 township, subject to the requirements of this section.

10 (2) If a village, city, or township allows the operation of

1 golf carts on the streets of that village, city, or township, that
2 village, city, or township may require those golf carts and the
3 operators of those golf carts to be recorded on a list maintained
4 by that village, city, or township. A village, city, or township
5 shall not charge a fee for listing golf carts or the operators of
6 those golf carts.

7 (3) A county board of commissioners may, by resolution,
8 disapprove the operation of golf carts on the streets of a township
9 located within that county if the county board of commissioners
10 conducts a hearing and determines that 1 or more of the following
11 apply:

12 (a) The operation of golf carts on the streets of that
13 township would cause significant environmental damage.

14 (b) The operation of golf carts on the streets of that
15 township would cause a significant concern of public safety.

16 (4) The county board of commissioners shall provide public
17 notice of a hearing under subsection (3) at least 45 days before
18 the hearing is conducted. The county board of commissioners shall
19 also provide written notice of a hearing under subsection (3) to
20 the township at least 45 days before the hearing is conducted.

21 (5) A person shall not operate a golf cart on any street
22 unless he or she is at least 16 years old and is licensed to
23 operate a motor vehicle.

24 (6) The operator of a golf cart shall comply with the signal
25 requirements of section 648 that apply to the operation of a
26 vehicle.

27 (7) A person operating a golf cart upon a roadway shall ride

1 as near to the right side of the roadway as practicable, exercising
2 due care when passing a standing vehicle or ~~one~~ **A VEHICLE**
3 proceeding in the same direction.

4 (8) ~~A~~ **EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SUBSECTION, A**
5 person shall not operate a golf cart on a state trunk line highway.
6 This subsection does not prohibit a person from crossing a state
7 trunk line highway when operating a golf cart on a street of a
8 village, city, or township, using the most direct line of crossing.
9 **A PERSON MAY OPERATE A GOLF CART ON A STATE TRUNK LINE HIGHWAY IF**
10 **ALL OF THE FOLLOWING ARE SATISFIED:**

11 (A) **THE PERSON DEMONSTRATES THAT OPERATING THE GOLF CART ON A**
12 **STATE TRUNK LINE HIGHWAY IS NECESSARY TO REACH HIS OR HER**
13 **DESTINATION.**

14 (B) **THE PERSON HAS AFFIXED TO THE REAR OF THE GOLF CART A**
15 **CLEARLY VISIBLE ORANGE TRIANGLE FOR THE PURPOSE OF DESIGNATING A**
16 **SLOW-MOVING VEHICLE.**

17 (C) **THE PERSON RIDES AS NEAR TO THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ROADWAY**
18 **AS PRACTICABLE.**

19 (9) Where a usable and designated path for golf carts is
20 provided adjacent to a highway or street, a person operating a golf
21 cart may, by local ordinance, be required to use that path.

22 (10) A person operating a golf cart shall not pass between
23 lines of traffic, but may pass on the left of traffic moving in his
24 or her direction in the case of a 2-way street or on the left or
25 right of traffic in the case of a 1-way street, in an unoccupied
26 lane.

27 (11) A golf cart shall not be operated on a sidewalk

1 constructed for the use of pedestrians.

2 (12) A golf cart shall be operated at a speed not to exceed 15
3 miles per hour and shall not be operated on a highway or street
4 with a speed limit of more than 30 miles per hour except to cross
5 that highway or street. A village, city, or township may, by
6 resolution, designate roads or classifications of roads for use by
7 golf carts under this subsection.

8 (13) A golf cart shall not be operated on the streets of a
9 city, village, or township during the time period from 1/2 hour
10 before sunset to 1/2 hour after sunrise.

11 (14) A person operating a golf cart or who is a passenger in a
12 golf cart is not required to wear a crash helmet.

13 (15) This section does not apply to a police officer in the
14 performance of his or her official duties.

15 (16) A golf cart operated on a street of a village, city, or
16 township under this section is not required to be registered under
17 this act for purposes of section 3101 of the insurance code of
18 1956, 1956 PA 218, MCL 500.3101.

19 (17) As used in this section, "golf cart" means a vehicle
20 designed for transportation while playing the game of golf. A golf
21 cart is not required to meet the vehicle safety requirements of a
22 low-speed vehicle for approval under this section.

23 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days
24 after the date it is enacted into law.