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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 1832

03/03/2025 Authored by Kresha
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Transportation Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to transportation; authorizing certain special vehicle operation on roads
1.3 by ordinance without a permit; making conforming and technical changes;
1.4 amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 169.045.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 169.045, is amended to read:

1.7 169.045 SPECIAL VEHICLE USE ON ROADWAY.

1.8 Subdivision 1. Ordinance; designation of roadway, permit; definitions. (a) The
1.9 governing body of any county, home rule charter or statutory city, or town may by ordinance
1.10 authorize the operation of motorized golf carts, all-terrain vehicles, utility task vehicles, or
1.11 mini trucks, on designated roadways or roadway portions thereof under its jurisdiction.
1.12 Authorization to operate a motorized golf cart, all-terrain vehicle, utility task vehicle, or
1.13 mini truck is by permit only. The ordinance must designate the roadways and specify the
1.14 types of motor vehicles for which operation is authorized. The ordinance may establish
1.15 conditions of operation consistent with the requirements under this section, and may require
1.16 issuance of a permit by the local unit of government for vehicle operation, as provided under
1.17 subdivision 2.

1.18 (b) For purposes of this section:

1.19 (1) an all-terrain vehicle has the meaning given in section 84.92;

1.20 (2) a mini truck has the meaning given in section 169.011, subdivision 40a; and

1.21 (3) a utility task vehicle means a side-by-side, four-wheel drive, off-road vehicle that
1.22 has four wheels, is propelled by an internal combustion engine with a piston displacement

2.1 capacity of 1,200 cubic centimeters or less, and has a total dry weight of 1,800 but less than  
2.2 2,600 pounds.

2.3 Subd. 2. **Ordinance; permit.** ~~The An ordinance shall designate the roadways, that~~  
2.4 requires a permit for vehicle operation under this section must prescribe the form of the  
2.5 application for the permit; and require evidence of insurance complying with the provisions  
2.6 of section 65B.48, subdivision 5 ~~and~~. The ordinance may prescribe conditions, not  
2.7 inconsistent with the provisions of this section, under which a permit may be granted. Permits  
2.8 may be granted for a period not to exceed three years; and may be renewed. A permit may  
2.9 be revoked at any time if there is evidence that the permittee cannot safely operate the  
2.10 motorized golf cart, all-terrain vehicle, utility task vehicle, or mini truck on the designated  
2.11 roadways. The ordinance may require, as a condition to obtaining a permit, that the applicant  
2.12 submit a certificate signed by a physician that the applicant is able to safely operate a  
2.13 ~~motorized golf cart, all-terrain vehicle, utility task vehicle, or mini truck~~ the vehicle on the  
2.14 roadways designated.

2.15 Subd. 3. **Times of operation.** Motorized golf carts, all-terrain vehicles, and utility task  
2.16 vehicles may only be operated on designated roadways from sunrise to sunset, unless  
2.17 equipped with original equipment headlights, taillights, and rear-facing brake lights. They  
2.18 ~~shall~~ must not be operated in inclement weather, except during emergency conditions as  
2.19 provided in the ordinance, or when visibility is impaired by weather, smoke, fog or other  
2.20 conditions, or at any time when there is insufficient visibility to clearly see persons and  
2.21 vehicles on the roadway at a distance of 500 feet.

2.22 Subd. 4. **Slow-moving vehicle emblem.** Motorized golf carts ~~shall~~ must display the  
2.23 slow-moving vehicle emblem provided for in section 169.522; when operated on designated  
2.24 roadways.

2.25 Subd. 5. **Crossing intersecting highways.** The operator; ~~under permit, of a motorized~~  
2.26 ~~golf cart, all-terrain vehicle, utility task vehicle, or mini truck~~ of a vehicle pursuant to this  
2.27 section may cross any street or highway intersecting a designated roadway.

2.28 Subd. 6. **Application of traffic laws.** Every person operating a ~~motorized golf cart,~~  
2.29 ~~all-terrain vehicle, utility task vehicle, or mini truck under permit~~ vehicle on designated  
2.30 roadways pursuant to this section has all the rights and duties applicable to the driver of  
2.31 any other vehicle under the provisions of this chapter, except (1) when those provisions  
2.32 cannot reasonably be applied to ~~motorized golf carts, all-terrain vehicles, utility task vehicles,~~  
2.33 ~~or mini trucks~~ the vehicle, and except (2) as otherwise specifically provided in subdivision  
2.34 7.

3.1 Subd. 7. **Nonapplication of certain laws.** The provisions of chapter 171 are applicable  
3.2 to persons operating mini trucks; but are not applicable to persons operating motorized golf  
3.3 carts, utility task vehicles, or all-terrain vehicles ~~under permit~~ on designated roadways  
3.4 pursuant to this section. Except for the requirements of section 169.70, the provisions of  
3.5 this chapter relating to equipment on vehicles are not applicable to motorized golf carts,  
3.6 utility task vehicles, or all-terrain vehicles operating, ~~under permit~~, on designated roadways  
3.7 pursuant to this section.

3.8 Subd. 7a. **Required equipment on mini trucks.** Notwithstanding sections 169.48 to  
3.9 169.68; or any other law, a mini truck may be operated ~~under permit~~ on designated roadways  
3.10 pursuant to this section if it is equipped with:

3.11 (1) at least two headlamps;

3.12 (2) at least two taillamps;

3.13 (3) front and rear turn-signal lamps;

3.14 (4) an exterior mirror mounted on the driver's side of the vehicle and either (i) an exterior  
3.15 mirror mounted on the passenger's side of the vehicle or (ii) an interior mirror;

3.16 (5) a windshield;

3.17 (6) a seat belt for the driver and front passenger; and

3.18 (7) a parking brake.

3.19 Subd. 8. **Insurance.** In the event ~~persons~~ a person operating a motorized golf cart, utility  
3.20 task vehicle, all-terrain vehicle, or mini truck under this section cannot obtain liability  
3.21 insurance in the private market, that person may purchase automobile insurance, including  
3.22 no-fault coverage, from the Minnesota Automobile Insurance Plan under sections 65B.01  
3.23 to 65B.12, at a rate to be determined by the commissioner of commerce.

3.24 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.