

**SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 4945**

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 SUBSECTION (9), A** person
5 shall not operate a golf cart on a state trunk line highway. This
6 subsection does not prohibit a person from crossing a state trunk
7 line highway when operating a golf cart on a street of a village,
8 city, or township, using the most direct line of crossing.

9 (9) **THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF A LOCAL UNIT OF GOVERNMENT MAY**
10 **REQUEST THE STATE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT TO AUTHORIZE THE LOCAL**
11 **UNIT OF GOVERNMENT TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE OPERATION**
12 **OF GOLF CARTS ON A STATE TRUNK LINE HIGHWAY, OTHER THAN AN**
13 **INTERSTATE HIGHWAY, LOCATED WITHIN THE LOCAL UNIT OF GOVERNMENT.**
14 **THE REQUEST SHALL DESCRIBE HOW THE AUTHORIZATION WOULD MEET THE**
15 **REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (10). THE STATE TRANSPORTATION**
16 **DEPARTMENT SHALL SOLICIT COMMENT ON THE REQUEST FROM THE LOCAL**
17 **UNITS OF GOVERNMENT WHERE THE STATE TRUNK LINE HIGHWAY IS LOCATED.**
18 **THE STATE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSIDER COMMENTS**
19 **RECEIVED ON THE REQUEST BEFORE MAKING A DECISION ON THE REQUEST.**
20 **THE STATE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT SHALL GRANT THE REQUEST IN**
21 **WHOLE OR IN PART OR DENY THE REQUEST NOT MORE THAN 60 DAYS AFTER**
22 **THE REQUEST IS RECEIVED. IF THE STATE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT**
23 **GRANTS A REQUEST IN WHOLE OR IN PART UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, THE**
24 **LOCAL UNIT OF GOVERNMENT THAT SUBMITTED THE REQUEST MAY ADOPT AN**
25 **ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS ON THE STATE**
26 **TRUNK LINE HIGHWAY THAT WAS THE SUBJECT OF THE REQUEST. A COUNTY**
27 **MAY SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION UNDER THIS SUBSECTION ON**

1 BEHALF OF 1 OR MORE LOCAL UNITS OF GOVERNMENT LOCATED WITHIN THAT
2 COUNTY IF REQUESTED BY THOSE LOCAL UNITS OF GOVERNMENT.

3 (10) THE STATE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT SHALL AUTHORIZE
4 OPERATION OF A GOLF CART UNDER SUBSECTION (9) ONLY ON A STATE TRUNK
5 LINE HIGHWAY THAT IS NOT AN INTERSTATE HIGHWAY WITHIN A LOCAL UNIT
6 OF GOVERNMENT THAT HAS ALREADY ADOPTED AN ORDINANCE UNDER
7 SUBSECTION (1), THAT SERVES AS A CONNECTOR BETWEEN PORTIONS OF THE
8 LOCAL UNIT OF GOVERNMENT THAT ONLY CONNECT THROUGH THE STATE TRUNK
9 LINE HIGHWAY, AND THAT MEETS 1 OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING
10 REQUIREMENTS:

11 (A) PROVIDES ACCESS TO TOURIST ATTRACTIONS, FOOD SERVICE
12 ESTABLISHMENTS, FUEL, MOTELS, OR OTHER SERVICES.

13 (B) SERVES AS A CONNECTOR BETWEEN 2 SEGMENTS OF THE SAME
14 COUNTY ROAD THAT RUN ALONG DISCONTINUOUS TOWN LINES.

15 (C) INCLUDES A BRIDGE OR CULVERT THAT ALLOWS A GOLF CART TO
16 CROSS A RIVER, STREAM, WETLAND, OR GULLY THAT IS NOT CROSSED BY A
17 STREET OR COUNTY ROAD ON WHICH GOLF CARTS ARE AUTHORIZED TO OPERATE
18 UNDER AN ORDINANCE ADOPTED AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (1).

19 (11) THE STATE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT MAY PERMANENTLY OR
20 TEMPORARILY CLOSE A STATE TRUNK LINE HIGHWAY TO THE OPERATION OF
21 GOLF CARTS OTHERWISE AUTHORIZED UNDER SUBSECTION (9) AFTER WRITTEN
22 NOTICE TO THE CLERK OF THE LOCAL UNIT OF GOVERNMENT THAT REQUESTED
23 THE AUTHORIZATION UNDER SUBSECTION (9). THE NOTICE SHALL BE IN
24 WRITING AND SENT BY FIRST-CLASS UNITED STATES MAIL OR PERSONALLY
25 DELIVERED NOT LESS THAN 30 DAYS BEFORE THE ADOPTION OF THE RULE OR
26 ORDER CLOSING THE STATE TRUNK LINE HIGHWAY. THE NOTICE SHALL SET
27 FORTH SPECIFIC REASONS FOR THE CLOSURE. THE STATE TRANSPORTATION

1 DEPARTMENT IS NOT REQUIRED TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR AN ALTERNATE ROUTE
2 FOR A STATE TRUNK LINE HIGHWAY THAT IT HAS TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO
3 THE OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS.

4 (12) ~~(9)~~—Where a usable and designated path for golf carts is
5 provided adjacent to a highway or street, a person operating a golf
6 cart may, by local ordinance, be required to use that path.

7 (13) ~~(10)~~—A person operating a golf cart shall not pass
8 between lines of traffic, but may pass on the left of traffic
9 moving in his or her direction in the case of a 2-way street or on
10 the left or right of traffic in the case of a 1-way street, in an
11 unoccupied lane.

12 (14) ~~(11)~~—A golf cart shall not be operated on a sidewalk
13 constructed for the use of pedestrians.

14 (15) ~~(12)~~—A golf cart shall be operated at a speed not to
15 exceed 15 miles per hour and shall not be operated on a **STATE TRUNK**
16 **LINE HIGHWAY OR A** highway or street with a speed limit of more than
17 30 miles per hour except to cross that **STATE TRUNK LINE HIGHWAY OR**
18 highway or street. A village, city, or township may, by resolution,
19 designate roads or classifications of roads for use by golf carts
20 under this subsection.

21 (16) ~~(13)~~—A golf cart shall not be operated on **A STATE TRUNK**
22 **LINE HIGHWAY OR** the streets of a city, village, or township during
23 the time period from 1/2 hour before sunset to 1/2 hour after
24 sunrise.

25 (17) ~~(14)~~—A person operating a golf cart or who is a passenger
26 in a golf cart is not required to wear a crash helmet.

27 (18) **A PERSON OPERATING A GOLF CART ON A STATE TRUNK LINE**

1 **HIGHWAY SHALL RIDE AS NEAR TO THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ROADWAY AS**
2 **PRACTICABLE.**

3 **(19)** ~~(15)~~—This section does not apply to a police officer in
4 the performance of his or her official duties.

5 **(20)** ~~(16)~~—A golf cart operated on a street of a village, city,
6 or township under this section is not required to be registered
7 under this act for purposes of section 3101 of the insurance code
8 of 1956, 1956 PA 218, MCL 500.3101.

9 **(21)** ~~(17)~~—As used in this section, "golf cart" means a vehicle
10 designed for transportation while playing the game of golf. A golf
11 cart is not required to meet the vehicle safety requirements of a
12 low-speed vehicle for approval under this section.

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