

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to electric personal assistive
3 mobility devices; amending s. 316.003, F.S.;
4 defining the term "electric personal assistive
5 mobility device"; creating s. 316.2068, F.S.;
6 providing regulations for electric personal
7 assistive mobility devices; providing an
8 effective date.

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

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12 Section 1. Subsection (21) of section 316.003, Florida
13 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (82) is added to that
14 section, to read:

15 316.003 Definitions.--The following words and phrases,
16 when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings
17 respectively ascribed to them in this section, except where
18 the context otherwise requires:

19 (21) MOTOR VEHICLE.--Any self-propelled vehicle not
20 operated upon rails or guideway, but not including any
21 bicycle, electric personal assistive mobility device, or
22 moped.

23 (82) ELECTRIC PERSONAL ASSISTIVE MOBILITY DEVICE.--Any
24 self-balancing, two non-tandem wheeled device, designed to
25 transport only one person, with an electric propulsion system
26 with average power of 750 watts (1 h.p.), the maximum speed of
27 which, on a paved level surface when powered solely by such a
28 propulsion system while being ridden by an operator who weighs
29 170 pounds, is less than 20 mph. Electric personal assistive
30 mobility devices are not vehicles as defined in this section.

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1 Section 2. Section 316.2068, Florida Statutes, is
2 created to read:

3 316.2068 Electric personal assistive mobility devices;
4 regulations.--

5 (1) An electric personal assistive mobility device, as
6 defined in s. 316.003, may be operated:

7 (a) On a road or street where the posted speed limit
8 is 25 miles per hour or less.

9 (b) On a marked bicycle path.

10 (c) On any street or road where bicycles are
11 permitted.

12 (d) At an intersection, to cross a road or street even
13 if the road or street has a posted speed limit of more than 25
14 miles per hour.

15 (e) On a sidewalk if the person operating the device
16 yields the right-of-way to pedestrians and gives an audible
17 signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian.

18 (2) A valid driver's license is not a prerequisite to
19 operating an electric personal assistive mobility device.

20 (3) Electric personal assistive mobility devices need
21 not be registered and insured in accordance with s. 320.02.

22 (4) A person who is under the age of 16 years may not
23 operate, ride, or otherwise be propelled on an electric
24 personal assistive mobility device unless the person wears a
25 bicycle helmet that is properly fitted, that is fastened
26 securely upon his or her head by a strap, and that meets the
27 standards of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI Z
28 Bicycle Helmet Standards), the standards of the Snell Memorial
29 Foundation (1984 Standard for Protective Headgear for Use in
30 Bicycling), or any other nationally recognized standards for
31 bicycle helmets which are adopted by the department.

1 (5) A county or municipality may prohibit the
2 operation of electric personal assistive mobility devices on
3 any road, street, or bicycle path under its jurisdiction if
4 the governing body of the county or municipality determines
5 that such a prohibition is necessary in the interest of
6 safety.

7 (6) The Department of Transportation may prohibit the
8 operation of electric personal assistive mobility devices on
9 any road under its jurisdiction if it determines that such a
10 prohibition is necessary in the interest of safety.

11 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
12 law.