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CS/CS/HB 949, Engrossed 1

2023 Legislature

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 2 An act relating to operation of a golf cart; amending  
 3 s. 316.212, F.S.; authorizing a water control district  
 4 to designate certain roads for use by golf carts;  
 5 requiring county approval before making such a  
 6 designation; prohibiting a person under 18 years of  
 7 age from operating a golf cart on certain roadways  
 8 unless he or she possesses a valid learner's driver  
 9 license or valid driver license; prohibiting a person  
 10 18 years of age or older from operating a golf cart on  
 11 certain roadways unless he or she possesses a valid  
 12 form of government-issued photographic identification;  
 13 providing a penalty; amending s. 322.04, F.S.;  
 14 conforming a provision to changes made by the act;  
 15 providing an effective date.

16  
 17 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

18  
 19 Section 1. Subsections (1) and (7) of section 316.212,  
 20 Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (9) of that  
 21 section is republished, to read:

22 316.212 Operation of golf carts on certain roadways.—The  
 23 operation of a golf cart upon the public roads or streets of  
 24 this state is prohibited except as provided herein:

25 (1) A golf cart may be operated only upon a county road

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26 | that has been designated by a county, a municipal street that  
 27 | has been designated by a municipality, ~~or~~ a two-lane county road  
 28 | located within the jurisdiction of a municipality designated by  
 29 | that municipality, or a road that is owned and maintained by a  
 30 | water control district and has been designated by that water  
 31 | control district, for use by golf carts. Before ~~Prior to~~ making  
 32 | such a designation, the responsible local governmental entity  
 33 | must first determine that golf carts may safely travel on or  
 34 | cross the public road or street, considering factors including  
 35 | the speed, volume, and character of motor vehicle traffic using  
 36 | the road or street, and if such designation is to be made by a  
 37 | water control district, the district must also receive approval  
 38 | from the county in which the road to be designated is located.  
 39 | Upon a determination that golf carts may be safely operated on a  
 40 | designated road or street, the responsible governmental entity  
 41 | shall post appropriate signs to indicate that such operation is  
 42 | allowed.

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

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

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

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

59 Section 2. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of section  
 60 322.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

61 322.04 Persons exempt from obtaining driver license.—

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

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

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