

# FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## BILL ANALYSIS

*This bill analysis was prepared by nonpartisan committee staff and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.*

**BILL #:** [CS/CS/HB 519](#)

**TITLE:** Golf Cart Crossings

**SPONSOR(S):** Yeager

**Committee References**

[Economic Infrastructure](#)

16 Y, 0 N, As CS

[Intergovernmental Affairs](#)

11 Y, 0 N, As CS

[Commerce](#)

**COMPANION BILL:** None

**LINKED BILLS:** None

**RELATED BILLS:** None

## SUMMARY

### Effect of the Bill:

The bill authorizes a local government entity to allow operation of a golf cart to cross a street or highway at a signalized intersection if:

- The intersection is located wholly within the boundaries of the local government entity;
- The local governmental entity in which the intersection is located has designated the roadways on both sides of the street or highway for golf cart operation; and
- The local government entity has approved the operation of golf carts for the purpose of crossing at the intersection and has posted signs at the intersection to indicate the operation is authorized.

### Fiscal or Economic Impact:

None

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## ANALYSIS

### **EFFECT OF THE BILL:**

The bill expands the authorized [operation of golf carts on roadways](#) by allowing operation of a golf cart to cross a highway at a signalized intersection if the following conditions are met:

- The intersection is located wholly within the boundaries of a single local governmental entity;
- The local governmental entity has designated the street or road located on both sides of the street or highway spanned by the crosswalk for the operation of golf carts; and
- The local government entity has approved the operation of golf carts for the purpose of crossing at the intersection and has posted signs at the intersection to indicate the operation is authorized. (Section [1](#))

The bill provides that operating a golf cart in violation of this provision is a non-criminal traffic infraction and is punishable as a moving violation. (Section [1](#))

The bill updates cross-references to conform with the provisions of the bill. (Sections [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#))

The bill has an effective date of July 1, 2026. (Section [6](#))

**STORAGE NAME:** h0519c.IAS

**DATE:** 2/12/2026

## RELEVANT INFORMATION

### SUBJECT OVERVIEW:

#### Operation of Golf Carts on Roadways

Florida law defines the term “golf cart” as a motor vehicle that is designed and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting or recreational purposes.<sup>1</sup> Operation of golf carts is prohibited on public roads or streets of this state, with the exceptions described below.<sup>2</sup>

A golf cart may be operated upon a county road that has been designated by a county, a municipal street that has been designated by a municipality, or a two-lane county road located within the jurisdiction of a municipality designated by that municipality for use by golf carts. Prior to making such a designation, the responsible local governmental entity must first determine that golf carts may safely travel on or cross the public road or street, considering factors including the speed, volume, and character of motor vehicle traffic using the road or street. Upon such a determination, the responsible governmental entity must post appropriate signs to indicate that such operation is allowed.<sup>3</sup>

A golf cart may be operated on the State Highway System under the following conditions:<sup>4</sup>

- To cross a portion of the State Highway System which intersects a county road or municipal street that has been designated for use by golf carts if the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has reviewed and approved the location and design of the crossing and any traffic control devices needed for safety purposes.
- To cross, at midblock, a part of the State Highway System where a golf course is constructed on both sides of the highway if FDOT has reviewed and approved the location and design of the crossing and any traffic control devices needed for safety purposes.
- On a state road that has been designated for transfer to a local government unit if DOT determines that the operation of a golf cart within the right-of-way of the road will not impede the safe and efficient flow of motor vehicular traffic and if:
  - The road is the only available public road along which golf carts may travel or cross or the road provides the safest travel route among alternative routes available; and
  - The speed, volume, and character of motor vehicle traffic using the road is considered by DOT in making its determination.

If such use is approved, FDOT must post appropriate signs along the road to indicate that golf cart operation is allowed.<sup>5</sup>

A golf cart may be operated by residents or guests of a mobile home park for the purpose of crossing a street or highway where the mobile home park is located on both sides of the street or highway and is divided by that street or highway, provided that the governmental entity having jurisdiction over such street or highway reviews and approves the location of the crossing and require implementation of any traffic controls needed for safety purposes. If notice is posted at the entrance and exit of any mobile home park where residents of the park operate golf carts or within the confines of the park, it is not necessary for the park to have a gate or other device at the entrance and exit in order for such golf carts or electric vehicles to be lawfully operated in the park.<sup>6</sup>

If authorized by the Division of Recreation and Parks of the Department of Environmental Protection, a golf cart may be operated on a road that is part of the State Park Road System if the posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> [S. 316.003\(29\), F.S.](#)

<sup>2</sup> [S. 316.212, F.S.](#)

<sup>3</sup> [S. 316.212\(1\), F.S.](#)

<sup>4</sup> [S. 316.212\(2\), F.S.](#)

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

<sup>6</sup> [S. 316.212\(3\), F.S.](#)

<sup>7</sup> [S. 316.212\(4\), F.S.](#)

A golf cart may only be operated during the hours between sunrise and sunset, unless the responsible governmental entity has determined that a golf cart may be operated during the hours between sunset and sunrise and the golf cart is equipped with headlights, brake lights, turn signals, and a windshield.<sup>8</sup> Further, a golf cart must be equipped with efficient brakes, reliable steering apparatus, safe tires, a rearview mirror, and red reflectorized warning devices in both the front and rear.<sup>9</sup> A golf cart may not be operated on public roads or streets by any person under the age of 15.<sup>10</sup>

A violation of age or equipment requirements for the use of a golf cart is a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable as a nonmoving violation.<sup>11</sup> A violation involving impermissible operation of a golf cart on public roads or a violation of the hours of permissible operation of a golf cart is a noncriminal traffic infraction punishable as a moving violation.<sup>12</sup>

#### RECENT LEGISLATION:

YEAR	BILL #/SUBJECT	HOUSE/SENATE SPONSOR(S)	OTHER INFORMATION
2023	<a href="#">CS/CS/HB 949</a> - Operation of a Golf Cart	Stevenson/ <i>Grall</i>	Became law on October 1, 2023.

#### BILL HISTORY

COMMITTEE REFERENCE	ACTION	DATE	STAFF DIRECTOR/ POLICY CHIEF	ANALYSIS PREPARED BY
<a href="#">Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee</a>	16 Y, 0 N, As CS	1/28/2026	Keating	Ray
THE CHANGES ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE:	Authorized operation of a golf cart to cross any street or highway, at a signalized intersection, within a crosswalk that is approved by a local governmental entity for golf cart crossings and that connects roadways designated by the local governmental entity for the operation of golf carts.			
	Removed provisions of the bill that:			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provided for golf cart crossings at highways of five or more lanes, subject to review and approval by FDOT of a crossing's location and design;</li> <li>Limited such crossings to perpendicular roadways with specified speed limits, turn lane configurations, and crossing angles; and</li> <li>Required a person to obtain a permit to operate a golf cart at such crossings from the applicable local government.</li> </ul>			
<a href="#">Intergovernmental Affairs Subcommittee</a>	11 Y, 0 N, As CS	2/12/2026	Darden	Burgess
THE CHANGES ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE:	Removed limitation that golf carts may only be authorized to cross at crosswalks.			
<a href="#">Commerce Committee</a>				

<sup>8</sup> [S. 316.212\(5\), F.S.](#)

<sup>9</sup> [S. 316.212\(6\), F.S.](#)

<sup>10</sup> [S. 316.212\(7\), F.S.](#) An operator under 18 years of age must possess a valid learner's driver license or valid driver license.

<sup>11</sup> [S. 316.212\(9\), F.S.](#)

<sup>12</sup> [S. 316.212\(9\), F.S.](#)

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**THIS BILL ANALYSIS HAS BEEN UPDATED TO INCORPORATE ALL OF THE CHANGES DESCRIBED ABOVE.**

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