

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009

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SENATE BILL 650  
State and Local Government Committee Substitute Adopted 4/21/09

Short Title: Regulation of Golf Carts by Local Governmts. (Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 19, 2009

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO ALLOW ALL UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO REGULATE GOLF  
3 CARTS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** Chapter 153A of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new  
6 section to read:

7 "**§ 153A-245. Regulation of golf carts on streets, roads, and highways.**

8 (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of G.S. 20-50 and G.S. 20-54, a county may, by  
9 ordinance, regulate the operation of golf carts, as defined in G.S. 20-4.01(12a), on any public  
10 street, road, or highway where the speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less within the county that  
11 is located in any unincorporated areas of the county or on any property owned or leased by the  
12 county.

13 (b) By ordinance, a county may require the registration of golf carts, charge a fee for  
14 the registration, specify who is authorized to operate golf carts, and specify the required  
15 equipment, load limits, and the hours and methods of operation of golf carts. No person less  
16 than 16 years of age may operate a golf cart on a public street or highway."

17 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 160A-300.5 is repealed.

18 **SECTION 3.** Chapter 160A of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new  
19 section to read:

20 "**§ 160A-300.6. Regulation of golf carts on streets, roads, and highways.**

21 (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of G.S. 20-50 and G.S. 20-54, a city may, by  
22 ordinance, regulate the operation of golf carts, as defined in G.S. 20-4.01(12a), on any public  
23 street, road, or highway where the speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less within its municipal  
24 limits or on any property owned or leased by the city.

25 (b) By ordinance, a city may require the registration of golf carts, charge a fee for the  
26 registration, specify who is authorized to operate golf carts, and specify the required equipment,  
27 load limits, and the hours and methods of operation of golf carts. No person less than 16 years  
28 of age may operate a golf cart on a public street or highway."

29 **SECTION 4.** Section 6 of S.L. 2001-356 is repealed.

30 **SECTION 5.** Section 1 of S.L. 2003-124, as amended by S.L. 2004-58, S.L.  
31 2007-204, and S.L. 2007-259, reads as rewritten:

32 "**SECTION 1.** Notwithstanding the provisions of G.S. 20-50 and G.S. 20-54, the Towns of  
33 Beech Mountain, North Topsail Beach, and Seven Devils, and the City of Conover may, by  
34 ordinance, regulate the operation of ~~golf carts and~~ utility vehicles on any public street or road  
35 within the City or Town. By ordinance, the City or Town may require the registration of ~~golf~~  
36 ~~carts and~~ utility vehicles, specify the persons authorized to operate ~~golf carts and~~ utility



1 vehicles, and specify required equipment, load limits, and the hours and methods of operation  
2 of the ~~golf carts and utility vehicles.~~"

3 **SECTION 6.** Section 1 of S.L. 2005-11, as amended by S.L. 2007-18, is repealed.

4 **SECTION 7.** Section 3 of S.L. 2005-11, as amended by S.L. 2006-149, S.L.  
5 2006-152, and S.L. 2007-18, reads as rewritten:

6 "~~**SECTION 3.** Section 1 of this act applies only to the Towns of Benson, Bladenboro,~~  
7 ~~Chadbourn, Clarkton, Elizabethtown, Four Oaks, Rose Hill and Tabor City. Section 2 of~~  
8 ~~this~~This act applies only to Moore County."

9 **SECTION 8.** Section 9.4 of the Charter for the Town of Cary, as enacted by  
10 Section 1 of S.L. 2005-117, is repealed.

11 **SECTION 9.** S.L. 2006-27, S.L. 2006-149, S.L. 2006-152, S.L. 2007-18, S.L.  
12 2007-72, S.L. 2007-336, and S.L. 2008-71 are repealed.

13 **SECTION 10.** Section 5.2 of the Charter for the Town of Whispering Pines, as  
14 enacted by Section 1 of S.L. 2008-105, is repealed.

15 **SECTION 11.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2009. A county may adopt an  
16 ordinance under G.S. 153A-245, and a city may adopt an ordinance under G.S. 160A-300.6  
17 when this act becomes law, but the ordinances may not become effective prior to October 1,  
18 2009. The repeal herein of any act does not affect the rights or liabilities of a local government  
19 that arose during the time the act was in effect, or under an ordinance adopted under such an  
20 act. If any county or city had adopted an ordinance under any act repealed by this act, and the  
21 ordinance would be permitted under G.S. 153A-245 or G.S. 160A-300.6 as enacted by this act,  
22 that ordinance shall remain in effect until amended or repealed by that county or city.