

Reducing Speed Limits in Residence Districts and Authorizing Golf Carts on Sidewalks; HB 2124

HB 2124 amends law regarding speed limits in residence districts and the operation of golf carts.

Reducing the Speed Limit in a Residence District

The bill amends the Uniform Act Regulating Traffic on Highways to permit a local authority with jurisdiction over residence districts to lower the speed limit in a residence district from 30 mph to 25 mph without performing an engineering and traffic investigation.

The bill creates the exemption to a general requirement for an engineering and traffic investigation before a local authority determines a permitted speed limit should be changed, including a limit within a residence district decreased to no less than 20 mph.

Continuing law defines a “residence district” as the territory contiguous to and including a highway (defined as every public way open to the public for vehicular travel) not comprising a business district when the property for 300 feet or more is improved, in the main, with residences or residences and buildings in use for business.

Authorizing the Driving of Golf Carts on Certain Sidewalks

The bill also authorizes a city to allow driving of a golf cart on a sidewalk if operation of a golf cart on the adjacent street or highway is prohibited. The bill requires the driver of the golf cart to be 16 or older and hold a valid class C driver’s license.

The exception for golf carts is added to the general prohibition to driving on a sidewalk in the Uniform Act Regulating Traffic on Highways. [*Note:* Continuing law permits a city to authorize golf cart operation within that city on any street or highway that is not an interstate, federal, or state highway if its posted speed limit is not more than 30 miles per hour and, if operated during hours other than between sunrise and sunset, the golf cart has lights and a slow-moving vehicle emblem.]