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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:

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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.