

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

POLICY COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDATION

FOR ENGROSSED

SENATE BILL NO. 20

By: Guthrie of the Senate

and

Banning of the House

POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

An Act relating to utility vehicles; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 1-171.1, which relates to street-legal utility vehicles; modifying definition; updating statutory reference; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 11-1116, which relates to self-propelled or motor-driven and operated vehicles; updating statutory language; modifying statutory reference; authorizing use of certain vehicles on certain stretches of U.S. highways; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 1-171.1, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1-171.1. Street-legal utility vehicle.

A. A "street-legal utility vehicle" is any motor vehicle having:

1. A bench seat or side-by-side seat for the use of each rider;

1        2. Four wheels in contact with the ground, but excluding a  
2 tractor;

3        3. A combustion engine with a piston or rotor displacement of  
4 four hundred cubic centimeters (400 cc) or greater and capable of  
5 maintaining speeds of ~~forty-five (45)~~ fifty (50) miles per hour or  
6 greater;

7        4. For each occupant, safety belts or safety shoulder harnesses  
8 which shall be of a type and shall be installed pursuant to 49  
9 C.F.R., Section 571.208 et seq.; and

10       5. All equipment required by the provisions of Sections 12-201  
11 through 12-232 of ~~Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title, with  
12 respect to equipment on vehicles.

13       B. A street-legal utility vehicle operated on the streets and  
14 highways of this state shall be registered as a motor vehicle.

15       C. The operator of a street-legal utility vehicle shall not be  
16 required to have an "M" endorsement on the Class D license pursuant  
17 to Section 6-110.1 of ~~Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title.  
18 The operator shall be at least sixteen (16) years of age and hold a  
19 valid Oklahoma driver license.

20       SECTION 2.        AMENDATORY        47 O.S. 2021, Section 11-1116, is  
21 amended to read as follows:

22       Section 11-1116. A. The self-propelled or motor-driven and  
23 operated vehicles described in this section shall be prohibited from  
24

operating or shall be limited in operation on the streets and highways of this state.

B. Self-propelled or motor-driven cycles, known and commonly referred to as "minibikes" and other similar trade names, shall be prohibited from operating on the streets and highways of this state, except:

1. When used in a parade; or

2. When registered, as required by subsection E of Section 1151 of this title, and operated in this state by food vendor services upon streets having a speed limit of thirty (30) miles per hour or less.

All minibikes offered for sale in this state shall bear the following notice to the customer: "This machine is not manufactured or sold for operation on the public streets or highways. Since it is not provided with equipment required by law for street or highway use, all persons are cautioned that any operation of this vehicle upon a public street or highway will be in violation of the motor vehicle laws of this state and will subject the violator to arrest."

C. Golf carts and utility vehicles, as defined by Section 1102 of this title, shall not be operated on the streets and highways of this state except:

1. Golf carts or utility vehicles owned by the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department, and operated by employees or agents of the Department or employees of independent management companies

1 working on behalf of the Department, may be operated on the streets  
2 and highways of this state during daylight hours or under rules  
3 developed by the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Commission, when  
4 the streets and highways are located within the boundaries of a  
5 state park. The Department shall have warning signs placed at the  
6 entrance and other locations at those state parks allowing golf  
7 carts or utility vehicles to be operated on the streets and highways  
8 of this state located within the boundaries of those state parks.  
9 The warning signs shall state that golf carts and utility vehicles  
10 may be operating on streets and highways and that motor vehicle  
11 operators shall take special precautions to be alert for the  
12 presence of golf carts or utility vehicles on the streets and  
13 highways;

14 2. The municipal governing body has adopted an ordinance  
15 governing the operation of golf carts ~~and/or~~ or utility vehicles on  
16 city streets; provided, such ordinances shall include necessary  
17 vehicle lighting and safety requirements;

18 3. Golf carts or utility vehicles may operate on state highways  
19 only if making a perpendicular crossing of a state highway located  
20 within the boundaries of a municipality which has adopted an  
21 ordinance governing the operation of golf carts ~~and/or~~ or utility  
22 vehicles;

1        4. The board of county commissioners of a county has approved  
2 the operation of golf cart ~~and/or~~ or utility vehicle traffic on  
3 roadways within the county, and:

4            a. the roadway has a posted speed limit of twenty-five  
5                (25) miles per hour or less,

6            b. the roadway is located in an unincorporated area, and

7            c. appropriate signage, cautioning motorists of the  
8                possibility of golf cart or utility vehicle traffic,  
9                is erected by the board of county commissioners; or

10        5. Street-legal utility vehicles that are registered as a motor  
11 vehicle pursuant to ~~subsection B of~~ Section ~~±~~ 1-171.1 of this ~~act~~  
12 title may be operated on the streets and highways of this state and  
13 on U.S. highways in counties with a population of less than seventy-  
14 five thousand (75,000) according to the latest Federal Decennial  
15 Census. Registered street-legal utility vehicles may be operated on  
16 stretches of U.S. highways with posted speed limits of fifty (50)  
17 miles per hour or less in counties with a population of more than  
18 seventy-five thousand (75,000) according to the latest Federal  
19 Decennial Census. Provided, however, street-legal utility vehicles  
20 shall not be operated on the National System of Interstate and  
21 Defense Highways ~~or U.S. highways.~~

22        D. All-terrain vehicles shall not be operated on the streets  
23 and highways of this state, except:  
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1        1. On unpaved roads which are located within the boundaries of  
2 any property of the Forest Service of the United States Department  
3 of Agriculture;

4        2. On highways if:

5            a. the vehicle needs to make a direct crossing of the  
6 highway while the vehicle is traveling upon a  
7 regularly traveled trail and needs to continue travel  
8 from one area of the trail to another and, if the  
9 vehicle comes to a complete stop, yields the right-of-  
10 way to all oncoming traffic that constitutes an  
11 immediate hazard, and crosses the highway at an angle  
12 of approximately ninety (90) degrees to the direction  
13 of the street or highway. This exception shall not  
14 apply to divided highways or highways with a posted  
15 speed limit of more than thirty-five (35) miles per  
16 hour in the area of the crossing,

17            b. the vehicle needs to travel on a highway in order to  
18 cross a railroad track. In that event, the all-  
19 terrain vehicle may travel for not more than three  
20 hundred (300) feet on a highway to cross a railroad  
21 track,

22            c. the operator of the all-terrain vehicle making the  
23 crossing at a highway has a valid driver license, and  
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d. the operator of the vehicle makes a crossing on a highway during daylight hours only;

3. On streets and highways within a municipality if the municipal governing body has adopted an ordinance governing the operation of golf carts, utility vehicles or all-terrain vehicles on streets and highways within the municipality; or

4. On roadways within unincorporated areas of a county if those roadways are not part of the state highway system or the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways; provided, however, that the driver is a licensed driver.

E. Mopeds, as defined by Section 1-133.2 of this title, may be operated on the streets and highways of this state if:

1. The municipal governing body has adopted an ordinance governing the operation of mopeds on city streets; provided, such ordinances shall include necessary vehicle lighting and safety requirements; or

2. The board of county commissioners of a county has approved the operation of mopeds on roadways within the county, not including roadways within a municipality.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

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