

SENATE FILE NO. SF0078

Neighborhood electric vehicles.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Townsend

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; authorizing the
2 operation of neighborhood electric vehicles as specified;
3 providing a criminal offense for unauthorized operation;
4 providing a definition; and providing for an effective
5 date.

6

7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

8

9 **Section 1.** W.S. 31-5-1701 is created to read:

10

11 ARTICLE 17

12 NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC VEHICLES

13

14 **31-5-1701. Neighborhood electric vehicles authorized;**
15 **local regulation.**

16

17 (a) Unless prohibited by local authorities as

1 authorized in this section, a person may operate a
2 neighborhood electric vehicle upon a highway or roadway of
3 this state having a speed limit of thirty-five (35) miles
4 per hour or less, subject to the following:

5

6 (i) The person shall not operate a neighborhood
7 electric vehicle upon a state highway;

8

9 (ii) The owner of the neighborhood electric
10 vehicle has been issued a certificate of title and the
11 vehicle displays a valid license plate, both as provided in
12 chapter 2 of this title;

13

14 (iii) The operator of the neighborhood electric
15 vehicle has a valid license as required by the Driver's
16 License Act;

17

18 (iv) The neighborhood electric vehicle is
19 insured under a motor vehicle liability insurance policy as
20 required by W.S. 31-4-103(a);

21

22 (v) The neighborhood electric vehicle shall not
23 cross a state highway or a roadway with a speed limit in
24 excess of thirty-five (35) miles per hour, unless the

1 crossing begins and ends on a roadway with a speed limit of
2 thirty-five (35) miles per hour or less, occurs at an
3 intersection of approximately ninety (90) degrees and the
4 local authorities have authorized the crossing.

5
6 (b) Any person who operates a neighborhood electric
7 vehicle upon a highway or roadway in this state, except in
8 accordance with this section, commits a misdemeanor
9 punishable as provided in W.S. 31-5-1201.

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11 (c) Local authorities may regulate the operation of
12 neighborhood electric vehicles on highways and roadways
13 under their jurisdiction if the regulation is consistent
14 with the provisions of this section, provided that:

15
16 (i) Local authorities shall not authorize the
17 operation of neighborhood electric vehicles upon state
18 highways; and

19
20 (ii) Local authorities shall not prohibit the
21 operation of neighborhood electric vehicles upon highways
22 or roadways having a speed limit of twenty-five (25) miles
23 an hour or less.

1 **Section 2.** W.S. 31-1-101(a)(xv) by creating a new
2 subparagraph (M) is amended to read:

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4 **31-1-101. Definitions.**

5
6 (a) Except as otherwise provided, as used in this
7 act:

8
9 (xv) "Motor vehicle" means every vehicle which
10 is self-propelled except vehicles moved solely by human
11 power or motorized skateboards. The term includes the
12 following vehicles as hereafter defined:

13
14 (M) "Neighborhood electric vehicle" means a
15 self-propelled, electrically powered four-wheeled motor
16 vehicle whose speed attainable in one (1) mile is more than
17 twenty (20) miles per hour and not more than twenty-five
18 (25) miles per hour and which conforms to federal
19 regulations under 49 C.F.R. part 571.500.

20
21 **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2006.

22
23 (END)