

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

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HOUSE BILL 307
Committee Substitute Favorable 3/19/19
PROPOSED SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE H307-PCS10836-TQ-40

Short Title: Mod. Utility Vehicle Classification.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 11, 2019

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO AMEND THE MOTOR VEHICLE LAWS OF THE STATE TO REGULATE
3 MODIFIED UTILITY VEHICLES.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 20-4.01(27) is amended by adding a new sub-subdivision to read:

6 "g2. Modified utility vehicle. – A motor vehicle that is (i) designed for
7 off-road use and (ii) manufactured with equipment required by
8 G.S. 20-121.1(2). "Modified utility vehicle" does not include an
9 all-terrain vehicle, golf cart, or utility vehicle, as defined in this
10 section, or a riding lawn mower."

11 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 20-87(12) reads as rewritten:

12 "(12) Low-Speed Vehicles and Mini-Trucks. Vehicles, Mini-Trucks, and Modified
13 Utility Vehicles. – The fee for a low-speed vehicle or mini-truck vehicle,
14 mini-truck, or modified utility vehicle is the same as the fee for private
15 passenger vehicles of not more than 15 passengers. However, the fee for any
16 low-speed vehicle or mini-truck vehicle, mini-truck, or modified utility
17 vehicle that is offered for rent shall be the same as the fee for a U-drive-it
18 automobile."

19 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 20-121.1 reads as rewritten:

20 "**§ 20-121.1. Operation of a low-speed vehicle or mini-truck vehicle, mini-truck, or modified**
21 **utility vehicle on certain roadways.**

22 The operation of a low-speed ~~vehicle or mini-truck vehicle~~, mini-truck, or modified utility
23 vehicle is authorized with the following restrictions:

- 24 (1) A low-speed vehicle may be operated only on streets and highways where the
25 posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less. A modified utility vehicle may
26 be operated only on streets and highways where the posted speed limit is 55
27 miles per hour or less. A mini-truck may be operated only on streets and
28 highways where the posted speed limit is 55 miles per hour or less. This does
29 not prohibit a low-speed ~~vehicle or mini-truck vehicle~~, mini-truck, or modified
30 utility vehicle from crossing a road or street at an intersection where the road
31 or street being crossed has a posted speed limit of more than 35 miles per hour.
32 (2) A low-speed ~~vehicle or mini-truck vehicle~~, mini-truck, or modified utility
33 vehicle shall be equipped with headlamps, stop lamps, turn signal lamps, tail
34 lamps, reflex reflectors, parking brakes, rearview mirrors, windshields,
35 windshield wipers, speedometer, seat belts, and a vehicle identification



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- 1 number. Any such required equipment shall be maintained in proper working
2 order.
- 3 (3) A low-speed ~~vehicle or mini-truck~~ vehicle, mini-truck, or modified utility
4 vehicle shall be registered and insured in accordance with G.S. 20-50 and
5 G.S. 20-309.
- 6 (4) The Department of Transportation may prohibit the operation of low-speed
7 ~~vehicles or mini-trucks~~ vehicles, mini-trucks, or modified utility vehicles on
8 any road or highway if it determines that the prohibition is necessary in the
9 interest of safety.
- 10 (5) Low-speed vehicles must comply with the safety standards in 49 C.F.R. §
11 571.500.
- 12 (6) Regardless of age, a mini-truck shall not qualify as an antique vehicle or
13 historic vehicle as described in G.S. 20-79.4(b)."
- 14 **SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2020.