

By: Representative Arnold

To: County Affairs

HOUSE BILL NO. 1004

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 63-32-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
 2 AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ANY COUNTY TO ALLOW THE
 3 OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS AND LOW-SPEED VEHICLES ON CERTAIN PUBLIC
 4 ROADS AND STREETING WITHIN THE COUNTY; TO REQUIRE INDIVIDUALS
 5 OPERATING SUCH GOLF CARTS OR LOW-SPEED VEHICLES TO HAVE A VALID
 6 DRIVER'S LICENSE OR TEMPORARY DRIVER'S PERMIT AND PROOF OF
 7 FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY; TO AMEND SECTION 63-32-5, MISSISSIPPI
 8 CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE THAT ANY SUCH GOLF CARTS OR LOW-SPEED
 9 VEHICLES BE REGISTERED WITH THE COUNTY; TO PROVIDE THAT IF A
 10 REGISTRATION FEE IS IMPOSED BY A COUNTY FOR THE OPERATION OF SUCH
 11 GOLF CARTS OR LOW-SPEED VEHICLES, THEN THE FEE SHALL BE USED BY
 12 THE COUNTY SOLELY FOR PAYING COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REPAIR,
 13 MAINTENANCE AND/OR RECONSTRUCTION OF COUNTY ROADS AND BRIDGES; AND
 14 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

16 **SECTION 1.** Section 63-32-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
 17 amended as follows:

18 63-32-3. (1) The governing authorities of a municipality or
 19 the board of supervisors of a county may, in their discretion,
 20 authorize the operation of golf carts and low-speed vehicles only
 21 on public roads and streets as designated by ordinance, within the
 22 corporate limits of the municipality or the county.

23 (2) Golf carts and low-speed vehicles may be operated on
 24 public roads and streets upon which bicycles are authorized by law



25 to be operated. Golf carts and low-speed vehicles may not be
26 operated on state highways or federal highways that are not
27 interstate highways except for the crossing of these public roads
28 and streets, in which case the shortest traveling distance to do
29 so shall be required. Drivers are required to operate golf carts
30 and low-speed vehicles only in the outside lane of multilane
31 streets and roads, where applicable.

32 (3) Any person operating a golf cart or low-speed vehicle on
33 the public roads and streets under this chapter must have in his
34 or her possession a valid driver's license or temporary driver's
35 permit and proof of financial responsibility as required under
36 Section 63-15-1 et seq.

37 **SECTION 2.** Section 63-32-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
38 amended as follows:

39 63-32-5. (1) Every golf cart and low-speed vehicle to be
40 operated, as authorized under this chapter, on a public road or
41 street shall be required to be registered with the city or the
42 county, as the case may be. Upon payment of a reasonable fee that
43 may be charged by the city or the county, as the case may be, to
44 cover the costs of administration, presentation of proof of
45 financial responsibility and presentation of a valid driver's
46 license or temporary driver's permit, the owner of the golf cart
47 or low-speed vehicle shall be issued a registration decal by the
48 county or municipal tax collector that must be displayed on the
49 left rear fender of the vehicle. The registration shall remain



50 valid for as long as the registering owner owns the golf cart or
51 low-speed vehicle. The city or the county, as the case may be,
52 shall provide the registrant with a map of the areas where golf
53 carts or low-speed vehicles may be operated at the time of
54 registration. The operator shall be required to have proof of
55 financial responsibility and a valid driver's license in his or
56 her possession at all times while operating the golf cart or
57 low-speed vehicle on public roads and streets of the state.

58 (2) (a) For municipalities, the registration fee imposed
59 under subsection (1) of this section shall be retained by the
60 municipal clerk and deposited into the municipal general fund.

61 (b) For counties, the registration fee imposed under
62 subsection (1) of this section shall be retained by the chancery
63 clerk and deposited into the county general fund but such
64 registration fee shall not be considered by the county as general
65 fund revenue but shall be dedicated solely to paying costs
66 associated with the repair, maintenance and/or reconstruction of
67 county roads and bridges.

68 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
69 and after July 1, 2022.

