

By: Representatives Bain, Carpenter

To: Local and Private
Legislation

HOUSE BILL NO. 1697

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE GOVERNING AUTHORITIES OF THE CITY OF
2 FARMINGTON, MISSISSIPPI, TO ALLOW THE OPERATION OF LOW-SPEED
3 VEHICLES AND GOLF CARTS ON CERTAIN PUBLIC ROADS AND STREETS WITHIN
4 THE CITY; TO REQUIRE INDIVIDUALS OPERATING A LOW-SPEED VEHICLE OR
5 GOLF CART TO HAVE A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE OR TEMPORARY DRIVER'S
6 LICENSE PERMIT; TO REQUIRE CERTAIN REGISTRATION OF SUCH LOW-SPEED
7 VEHICLE OR GOLF CART; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** As used in this act, unless a different meaning
10 clearly appears in the context, the following terms shall have the
11 following meanings:

12 (a) "City" means the City of Farmington, Mississippi.

13 (b) "Governing authorities" means the Mayor and City
14 Council of the City of Farmington, Mississippi.

15 (c) "Golf cart" means a motor vehicle that is
16 designated and manufactured for operation on a golf course for
17 sporting or recreational purposes and that is capable of exceeding
18 speeds of twenty (20) miles per hour and is equipped with the
19 safety equipment as required under 49 CFR Section 571.500(b).



20 (d) "Low-speed vehicle" means any four wheeled
21 electric, gasoline, diesel or other petroleum based propulsion
22 powered vehicle that has a top speed greater than twenty (20)
23 miles per hour and is equipped with the safety equipment as
24 required under 49 CFR Section 521.500.

25 (e) No vehicle shall qualify under this act that has
26 less than a front seat that will accommodate two (2) adult
27 passengers seated side by side.

28 **SECTION 2.** (1) The governing authorities of the City of
29 Farmington, Mississippi, may, in their discretion, authorize the
30 operation of low-speed vehicles and golf carts only on public
31 roads and streets that are within the City of Farmington.

32 (2) Any person operating a low-speed vehicle or golf cart on
33 the public roads and streets under this act must have in his or
34 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., Mississippi Code of 1972.

37 (3) Low-speed vehicles and golf carts may only be operated
38 on any city street having a posted maximum speed of forty-five
39 (45) miles per hour or less, low-speed vehicles and golf carts may
40 cross Kimberly Clark Road also known as Alcorn County Road#s 206,
41 106 and 106A but shall not travel upon such road unless
42 participating in a parade officially approved by the governing
43 authorities of the City of Farmington.



44 (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the
45 contrary, when operated by a person participating in a parade
46 permitted by the City of Farmington, low-speed vehicles and golf
47 carts may be operated on the permitted route of the parade while
48 participating in the parade.

49 (5) Operating a low-speed vehicle or golf cart without a
50 decal, an expired decal or a decal registered to another owner or
51 vehicle shall constitute a violation of this act and subject the
52 owner to a fine up to Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) per
53 occurrence.

54 (6) The city may refuse to register and issue a permit for
55 the operation of a low-speed vehicle or golf cart, or may revoke a
56 previously issued permit, if the registered low-speed vehicle or
57 golf cart and/or owner of the low-speed vehicle or golf cart is
58 involved in three (3) or more violations of this act within one
59 (1) year.

60 **SECTION 3.** (1) Every low-speed vehicle and golf cart to be
61 operated, as authorized under this act, on a public road or street
62 shall be required to register the vehicle with the City of
63 Farmington. A reasonable fee may be charged by the city to cover
64 the costs of administration. Upon presentation of proof of
65 financial responsibility and presentation of a valid driver's
66 license or temporary driving permit, the owner of the low-speed
67 vehicle or golf cart shall be issued a registration decal by the
68 city clerk that must be displayed on the left rear fender of the



69 vehicle. The registration shall remain valid for as long as the
70 registering owner owns the low-speed vehicle or golf cart. The
71 city shall establish the amount of the registration fee at the
72 first monthly meeting after passage of this act and may adjust the
73 fee as needed. The operator shall be required to have proof of
74 financial responsibility and a valid driver's license in his or
75 her possession at all times while operating the low-speed vehicle
76 or golf cart on public roads and streets of the state.

77 (2) The registration fee imposed under subsection (1) of
78 this section shall be retained by the city clerk and deposited
79 into the municipal general fund.

80 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
81 and after its passage.

