

By: Representatives Bain, Carpenter

To: Local and Private  
Legislation

HOUSE BILL NO. 1697  
(As Sent to Governor)

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 insurance, including at least Fifty Thousand  
36 Dollars (\$50,000.00) of liability insurance.

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.

