



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

**Raised Bill No. 1288**

LCO No. 4444

\*04444\_\_\_\_\_TRA\*

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Introduced by:  
(TRA)

**AN ACT CONCERNING REGISTRATION AND USE OF CERTAIN LOW SPEED NEIGHBORHOOD VEHICLES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 14-1 of the general statutes is  
2 amended by adding subdivision (99) as follows (*Effective October 1,*  
3 *2005*):

4 (NEW) (99) "Neighborhood electric vehicle" means a four-wheel,  
5 self-propelled, electrically-powered motor vehicle designed for  
6 conveyance of passengers, that has an attainable speed of not less than  
7 twenty miles per hour and not more than twenty-five miles per hour  
8 on a paved, level surface and that conforms with standards adopted  
9 for low speed vehicles by the National Highway Safety and Traffic  
10 Administration, in accordance with 49 CFR 571.500, as amended from  
11 time to time.

12 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2005*) (a) The Commissioner of  
13 Motor Vehicles may, on application in accordance with the provisions  
14 of section 14-12 of the general statutes and subject to the financial  
15 responsibility provisions of section 14-112 of the general statutes, issue

16 a certificate of registration and marker plates to the owner or lessee of  
17 a neighborhood electric vehicle. The applicant shall pay the fee  
18 required under subsection (f) of section 14-49 of the general statutes.  
19 Such owner or lessee shall carry such registration and proof of  
20 financial responsibility in the vehicle and display marker plates as  
21 required by section 14-18 of the general statutes. The commissioner  
22 shall issue a certificate of title, pursuant to the provisions of chapter  
23 247 of the general statutes, for each vehicle that has been issued a  
24 manufacturer's or importer's certificate of origin and vehicle  
25 identification number.

26 (b) No individual may operate a neighborhood electric vehicle  
27 unless (1) the individual carries a valid motor vehicle operator's license  
28 or learner's permit, (2) a certificate of registration and automobile  
29 insurance identification card for the vehicle are carried in the motor  
30 vehicle and marker plates are displayed in accordance with the  
31 provisions of section 14-18 of the general statutes, and (3) such vehicle  
32 is equipped in accordance with the requirements of sections 14-80 to  
33 14-106c, inclusive, of the general statutes, except insofar as any  
34 requirement of said sections is inapplicable to or inconsistent with the  
35 design and equipment standards for low speed vehicles, as adopted by  
36 the National Highway Safety Traffic Administration in accordance  
37 with 49 CFR 571.000, as amended from time to time.

38 (c) A neighborhood electric vehicle may be operated on a highway  
39 only if such highway has an established speed limit of no more than  
40 thirty miles per hour, except that the traffic authority of any  
41 municipality may limit or prohibit the operation of neighborhood  
42 electric vehicles on any highway under the jurisdiction of such local  
43 traffic authority.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	14-1(a)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To provide for registration and equipment standards for neighborhood electric vehicles and to permit their operation on highways with posted speed limits of thirty miles per hour or less.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*