

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2005 Wisconsin Act 329 [2005 Assembly Bill 851]

Operation of Neighborhood Electric Vehicles on Local Roads

Act 329 authorizes cities, villages, and towns (municipalities) to permit by ordinance the use of a neighborhood electric vehicle on a roadway that has a speed limit of 35 miles per hour or less and over which the governing body of the municipality has jurisdiction. The Act defines "neighborhood electric vehicle" as a self-propelled motor vehicle that meets the definition and safety standards for low-speed vehicles under federal law and that has completed a specified test program of the federal Department of Energy. The term does not include golf carts.

Under the Act, an ordinance may include a provision for the municipality to license neighborhood electric vehicles that are used within the municipality.

The Act requires a municipality that passes an ordinance authorizing operation of neighborhood electric vehicles to enter into an agreement with, or obtain the consent of, each governing body that shares jurisdiction over a roadway within the municipality, to permit neighborhood electric vehicles to use or cross that roadway.

Effective Date: April 29, 2006.

Prepared by: Don Dyke, Chief of Legal Services May 16, 2006

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: http://www.legis.state.wi.us/.