

**ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2015**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT (CORRECTED)**  
**LB570**

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**Hearing Date:** Tuesday February 10, 2015  
**Committee On:** Transportation and Telecommunications  
**Introducer:** Brasch  
**One Liner:** Change operation restrictions on golf car vehicles

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

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**Vote Results:**

**Aye:** 8 Senators Smith, Seiler, Murante, McCoy, Garrett, Friesen, Davis, Brasch

**Nay:**

**Absent:**

**Present Not Voting:**

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**Verbal Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator Lydia Brasch  
Jay Schrad  
James Egr  
Robert Bauerle

**Representing:**

Introducer  
Self  
City of David City, Nebraska  
Self

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

Gary Krumland

**Representing:**

League of Nebraska Municipalities

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

Amends section 60-6,381, operation of golf cart vehicles upon public roads and streets.

Currently this section states that a municipality or county by ordinance may authorize the operation of a golf cart on public roads under the control of a municipality or county that are adjacent and contiguous to a golf course. The operator of the vehicle must have a valid Class O operator's license and shall have liability insurance on the vehicle.

The section is amended as follows:

- 1) The limitation that a golf cart can only be operated on public roads adjacent and contiguous to a golf course is eliminated and language is added providing that a golf cart may be operated on public roads under the control of a municipality or county with a posted speed limit of 35 mph or less between sunrise and sunset;
  - 2) The municipality or county may designate how other roads may be crossed;
  - 3) The municipality may enact restrictions upon the operation of a golf cart that are more strict than those prescribed under this section; and
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4) The operation of a golf cart in violation of this section, including the failure to maintain liability insurance, is designated as a Class IV misdemeanor.

NOTE:

Section 60-622.01. Golf car vehicle definition.

Golf car vehicle means a vehicle that has at least four wheels, has a maximum level ground speed of less than twenty miles per hour, has a maximum payload capacity of one thousand two hundred pounds, has a maximum gross vehicle weight of two thousand five hundred pounds, has a maximum passenger capacity of not more than four persons, is designed and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting and recreational purposes, and is not being operated within the boundaries of a golf course.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

The Committee considered and adopted an amendment that accomplishes the following:

The committee amendment adds a new subsection (2) to section 60-6,381 that authorizes municipalities and counties to expand the allowed use of golf car vehicles beyond streets authorized in existing subsection (1) of the section. (streets adjacent and contiguous to a golf course).

The following limitations upon expanded use and operation are specified:

- 1) operation must be between the hours of sunrise and sunset;
- 2) only on street with a posted speed limit of 35 mph or less;
- 3) the vehicle can not be operated at a speed in excess of 20 mph;
- 4) the vehicle may not be operated on any state or federal highway, except to cross such highway; and
- 5) any municipality or county may, by ordinance, adopt requirements stricter than those set forth above.

Any person operating a golf car vehicle pursuant to the authority created pursuant to this subsection shall possess a valid Class O operator's license and shall be required to demonstrate financial responsibility at the following limits: \$25,000 bodily injury or death for any one person in any one accident; \$50,000 bodily injury for injury or death to two or more persons in any one accident; and \$25,000 for injury or destruction to property for any one accident.

The existing authority allowing operation of golf car vehicles adjacent and contiguous to a golf course is amended to require that a person operating a golf car vehicle shall, within 5 days after a request from a law enforcement officer, demonstrate proof of liability insurance coverage. The amendment also strikes language allowing the Department of Roads to prohibit operation of a golf car vehicle on any highway upon a finding of interest of public safety.

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Jim Smith, Chairperson