

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 87th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2009

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1902

4
5 By: Representatives Cash, Webb
6 By: Senator Bookout

For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE ELECTRIC AUTOCYCLES TO BE
11 LICENSED AND REGISTERED AS MOTORCYCLES; TO
12 PROVIDE STANDARDS FOR AUTOCYCLES; TO CREATE THE
13 ELECTRIC AUTOCYCLE ACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

16 THE ELECTRIC AUTOCYCLE ACT.

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 27, Chapter 20, is amended to add an
22 additional subchapter to read as follows:

23 Subchapter 3 —
24 Electric Autocycles

25
26 27-20-301. Title.

27 This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the “Electric
28 Autocycle Act”.

29
30 27-20-302. Purpose.

31 The purpose of this subchapter is to:

32 (1) Allow the registration and licensing of autocycles as an
33 environmentally friendly option for Arkansans to provide an affordable
34 transportation option that will reduce our dependency on foreign oil; and

35 (2) Provide economic stimulus to the emerging industry of
36 autocycles.



1
2 27-20-303. Definitions.

3 As used in this subchapter:

4 (1)(A) "Autocycle" means a motorized cycle that exclusively uses
5 a motor operated by electricity, is a zero-emission vehicle, and is:

6 (i) At least sixty inches (60") in width;

7 (ii) Not more than one hundred thirty-five inches
8 (135") in length;

9 (iii) At least one thousand pounds (1,000 lbs.) in
10 unladen weight;

11 (iv) Equipped with:

12 (a) Three (3) low-pressure tires;

13 (b) A steering wheel;

14 (c) Seating for at least one (1) person but
15 not more than four (4) person;

16 (d) A fully-enclosed metal or metal-reinforced
17 cab with glass and mirrors and complies with § 27-37-301 – 27-37-306
18 regarding safety glass and mirrors;

19 (e) Doors with functioning handle locks that
20 are similar to the handle locks on motor vehicles;

21 (f) Headlights as required under § 27-20-
22 104(d)(1);

23 (g) Tail lamps as required under § 27-20-
24 104(d)(3);

25 (h) Brakes as required under § 27-20-
26 104(d)(4);

27 (i) A working horn as required under § 27-20-
28 104(d)(5);

29 (j) Signal lamps as provided under § 27-36-
30 216; and

31 (k) Seat belts as provided under §§ 27-37-701
32 et seq.

33 (B) An autocycle shall not be required to have a muffler
34 because it is a zero-emission electric vehicle.

35 (C) An autocycle may be equipped with a bed or cargo box
36 for hauling materials.

1 (D) An autocycle is a motor vehicle for the purposes of
2 minimum insurance liability under the Motor Vehicle Safety Responsibility
3 Act, § 27-19-101 et seq., and § 27-22-101 et seq.

4 (E) An autocycle is not an all-terrain vehicle under § 27-
5 20-201 et seq. and § 27-21-101 et seq.; and

6 (2) “Low pressure tire” means a pneumatic tire that conforms to
7 the manufacturer’s specifications for the autocycle and is comparable to the
8 tires used on other motor vehicles.

9
10 27-20-304. Registration and licensing — Fees.

11 (a) The owner of an autocycle may register and license it as a
12 motorcycle under § 27-20-105.

13 (b) In addition to the application to register the autocycle, the
14 owner of an autocycle shall provide proof of insurance as required under the
15 Motor Vehicle Safety Responsibility Act, § 27-19-101 et seq., and § 27-22-101
16 et seq.; and

17 (c) The fees for registering and licensing an autocycle shall be five
18 dollars (\$5.00).

19
20 27-20-305. Subject to the rules of the road.

21 The operator of an autocycle that is registered and licensed under this
22 section shall comply with and is subject to the same penalties for violating
23 the rules of the road as provided under § 27-51-101 et seq.

24
25 27-20-306. Operation requirements — Passengers.

26 (a)(1) If the operator of an autocycle is eighteen (18) years of age
27 or older, the operator shall have a valid driver’s license and shall not be
28 required to have the motorcycle endorsement required under § 27-20-106.

29 (2)(A) If the operator of an autocycle is under eighteen (18)
30 years of age, the operator shall have a valid instruction permit, learner’s
31 license, or intermediate license.

32 (B) An operator of an autocycle under eighteen (18) years
33 of age shall comply with all requirements concerning the permit or license
34 that he or she holds.

35 (b) The mandatory seat belt use under § 27-37-701 et seq. shall apply
36 to the operator and all passengers in the autocycle.

1 (c) An operator of or passenger in an autocycle is not required to
2 comply with § 27-20-104(b) requiring:

3 (1) Protective headgear; or

4 (2) Protective glasses, goggles, or transparent face shields.

5 (d)(1) An operator of the autocycle shall have not more than three (3)
6 passengers in the autocycle.

7 (2) The requirements of § 27-20-110 shall not apply to
8 autocycles.

9 (e)(1) A child may be a passenger in an autocycle and § 27-20-118
10 shall not apply to autocycles.

11 (2) If applicable because of the child's age or weight, the
12 child shall be restrained as provided under the Child Passenger Protection
13 Act, § 27-34-101 et seq.

14
15 27-20-307. Operation limitations.

16 (a) An autocycle shall not be operated on an interstate highway.

17 (b) An autocycle shall not be operated on a road or highway if:

18 (1) The operation of autocycles or motorcycles is prohibited;

19 (2) The road is a controlled-access highway;

20 (3) The posted speed limit is more than fifty-five (55) miles
21 per hour; or

22 (4) The autocycle cannot maintain a speed equal to the posted
23 speed limit.

24
25 27-20-308. Rules.

26 The Department of Finance and Administration may adopt rules for the
27 implementation and administration of this subchapter.

28
29 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 27, Chapter 20, Subchapter 1 is amended
30 to add an additional section to read as follows:

31 27-20-119. Autocycles.

32 The requirements and regulation of autocycles shall be as provided
33 under the Electric Autocycle Act, § 27-20-301 et seq.