

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2019

S

1

SENATE BILL 373

Short Title: Electric Standup Scooters. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Woodard and Krawiec (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

March 27, 2019

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO DEFINE AND AUTHORIZE THE USE OF ELECTRIC STANDUP SCOOTERS.  
3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

4 SECTION 1. G.S. 20-4.01 reads as rewritten:

5 "§ 20-4.01. Definitions.

6 Unless the context requires otherwise, the following definitions apply throughout this  
7 Chapter to the defined words and phrases and their cognates:

8 ...

9 (7c) Electric Standup Scooter. – A device with no more than three 12-inch or  
10 smaller diameter wheels that has handlebars, is designed to be stood upon by  
11 the user while riding, and is powered by an electric motor that is capable of  
12 propelling the device with or without human propulsion at a speed no greater  
13 than 20 miles per hour on a paved level surface.

14 (7e)(7d) Employer. – Any person who owns or leases a commercial motor vehicle  
15 or assigns a person to drive a commercial motor vehicle and would be subject  
16 to the alcohol and controlled substance testing provisions of 49 C.F.R. § 382  
17 and also includes any consortium or third-party administrator administering  
18 the alcohol and controlled substance testing program on behalf of  
19 owner-operators subject to the provisions of 49 C.F.R. § 382.

20 ...

21 (23) Motor Vehicle. – Every vehicle which is self-propelled and every vehicle  
22 designed to run upon the highways which is pulled by a self-propelled vehicle.  
23 Except as specifically provided otherwise, this term shall not include ~~mopeds~~  
24 ~~or mopeds,~~ electric assisted bicycles-bicycles, or electric standup scooters.

25 ...

26 (27) Passenger Vehicles. –

27 ...

28 j. Moped. – A vehicle, other than a motor-driven ~~bicycle or bicycle,~~  
29 electric assisted bicycle, or electric standup scooter, that has two or  
30 three wheels, no external shifting device, a motor that does not exceed  
31 50 cubic centimeters piston displacement and cannot propel the  
32 vehicle at a speed greater than 30 miles per hour on a level surface.  
33 The motor may be powered by electricity, alternative fuel, motor fuel,  
34 or a combination of each.

35 ...



1 (49) Vehicle. – Every device in, upon, or by which any person or property is or  
2 may be transported or drawn upon a highway, excepting devices moved by  
3 human power or used exclusively upon fixed rails or tracks; provided, that for  
4 the purposes of this Chapter ~~bicycles and bicycles~~, electric assisted bicycles  
5 bicycles, and electric standup scooters shall be deemed vehicles and every  
6 rider of a ~~bicycle or bicycle~~, an electric assisted ~~bicycle bicycle~~, or electric  
7 standup scooter upon a highway shall be subject to the provisions of this  
8 Chapter applicable to the driver of a vehicle except those which by their nature  
9 can have no application. This term shall not include a device which is designed  
10 for and intended to be used as a means of transportation for a person with a  
11 mobility impairment, or who uses the device for mobility enhancement, is  
12 suitable for use both inside and outside a building, including on sidewalks,  
13 and is limited by design to 15 miles per hour when the device is being operated  
14 by a person with a mobility impairment, or who uses the device for mobility  
15 enhancement. This term shall not include an electric personal assistive  
16 mobility device as defined in subdivision (7b) of this section. Unless the  
17 context requires otherwise, and except as provided under G.S. 20-109.2,  
18 47-20.6, or 47-20.7, a manufactured home shall be deemed a vehicle.

19 ...."

20 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 20-51 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

21 "(18) Electric standup scooters as defined in G.S. 20-4.01(7c)."

22 **SECTION 3.** Any and all ordinances in effect on the effective date of this act or  
23 hereinafter adopted by a municipality that conflict with the provisions of this act shall be null  
24 and void. Upon the effective date of this act, any municipality that has adopted an ordinance or  
25 regulation affecting electric standup scooters shall conduct a review of those ordinances and  
26 regulations to ensure compliance with this act.

27 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to offenses  
28 committed on or after that date.