**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 56‑1‑10, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO DEFINITION OF TERMS REGARDING THE OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES ALONG THE STATE’S HIGHWAYS, SO AS TO PROVIDE A DEFINITION FOR THE TERM “LSV‑C ELECTRIC VEHICLE”; AND BY ADDING ARTICLE 22 TO CHAPTER 5, TITLE 56 SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGULATION OF LSV‑C ELECTRIC VEHICLES ALONG THE STATE’S HIGHWAYS.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 56‑1‑10 of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 279 of 2008, is further amended by adding at the end:

“(25) ‘LSV‑C electric vehicle’ means a motor vehicle, upon or by which a person may be transported, that:

(a) has a maximum speed of thirty‑five miles an hour as certified by the manufacturer;

(b) is propelled by its own power, using an electric motor or other device that transforms stored electrical energy into the motion of the vehicle;

(c) stores electricity in batteries, ultracapacitors, or similar devices, which are charged from the power grid or from renewable electrical energy sources;

(d) is fully enclosed and includes at least one door for entry;

(e) has a wheelbase of forty inches or greater and a wheel diameter of ten inches or greater;

(f) exhibits a manufacturer’s compliance with 49 C.F.R., part 565, or displays a seventeen character vehicle identification number as provided in 49 C.F.R., part 565; and

(g) bears a sticker, affixed by the manufacturer or dealer, on the left side of the rear window that indicates the vehicle’s maximum speed rating.”

SECTION 2. Chapter 5, Title 56 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Article 22

LSV‑C Electric Vehicle

Section 56‑5‑2810. A LSV‑C electric vehicle as defined in Section 56‑1‑10(25) must be equipped with:

(1) headlamps, front and rear turn signal lamps, tail lamps, and stop lamps;

(2) three red reflectors, two of which must be placed on each side as far to the rear of the vehicle as practicable, and one of which must be placed on the rear of the vehicle;

(3) an exterior mirror mounted on the driver’s side of the vehicle and either an exterior mirror mounted on the passenger’s side of the vehicle or an interior mirror;

(4) a parking brake;

(5) a windshield that conforms to the federal motor vehicle safety standard provided in 49 C.F.R. 571.205; and

(6) a seatbelt assembly that conforms to the federal motor vehicle safety standard provided in 49 C.F.R. 571.209.

Section 56‑5‑2820. A LSV‑C electric vehicle may be operated only on a highway for which the posted speed limit does not exceed forty‑five miles an hour.”

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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