

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2001

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SENATE BILL 1144

Short Title: Two-Wheeled Mobility Devices.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senator Hoyle.

Referred to: Commerce.

June 3, 2002

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO DEFINE AND AUTHORIZE THE USE OF NONTANDEM
3 TWO-WHEELED PERSONAL ASSISTIVE MOBILITY DEVICES.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 SECTION 1. G.S. 20-4.01(7a) reads as rewritten:

6 "~~(7a)~~(7b) Employer. – Any person who owns or leases a commercial motor
7 vehicle or assigns a person to drive a commercial motor vehicle."

8 SECTION 2. G.S. 20-4.01 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

9 "(7a) Personal Assistive Mobility Device. — A self-balancing nontandem
10 two-wheeled device, designed to transport one person, with a
11 propulsion system that limits the maximum speed of the device to 15
12 miles per hour or less."

13 SECTION 3. G.S. 20-4.01(49) reads as rewritten:

14 "(49) Vehicle. – Every device in, upon, or by which any person or property
15 is or may be transported or drawn upon a highway, excepting devices
16 moved by human power or used exclusively upon fixed rails or tracks;
17 provided, that for the purposes of this Chapter bicycles shall be
18 deemed vehicles and every rider of a bicycle upon a highway shall be
19 subject to the provisions of this Chapter applicable to the driver of a
20 vehicle except those which by their nature can have no application.
21 This term shall not include a device which is designed for and intended
22 to be used as a means of transportation for a person with a mobility
23 impairment, or who uses the device for mobility enhancement, is
24 suitable for use both inside and outside a building, including on
25 sidewalks, and is limited by design to 15 miles per hour when the
26 device is being operated by a person with a mobility impairment, or
27 who uses the device for mobility enhancement. This term does not

1 include an electric personal assistive mobility device as defined in G.S.
2 20-4.01(7a)."

3 **SECTION 4.** G.S. 20-51 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

4 "(14) Electric personal assistive mobility devices as defined in G.S.
5 20-4.01(7a)."

6 **SECTION 5.** Article 3 of Chapter 20 of the General Statutes is amended by
7 adding a new Part to read:

8 "Part 11C. Electric Personal Assistive Mobility Devices.

9 "**§ 20-175.6. Electric personal assistive mobility devices.**

10 (a) Electric personal assistive mobility device. — As defined in G.S. 20-4.01(7a).

11 (b) Exempt from Registration. — As provided in G.S. 20-51.

12 (c) Use of Device. — An electric personal assistive mobility device may be
13 operated on the public highways, sidewalks, and bicycle paths. A person operating an
14 electric personal assistive mobility device on a sidewalk, roadway, or bicycle path shall
15 yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and other human-powered devices. A person
16 operating an electric personal assistive mobility device shall have all rights and duties of
17 a pedestrian."

18 **SECTION 6.** This act is effective when it becomes law.