



HOUSE BILL 179: Mini-Truck Classification.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee: Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate	Date: June 11, 2019
Introduced by: Reps. Stevens, Shepard	Prepared by: Susan Sitze*
Analysis of: First Edition	Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 179 would make various changes to the motor vehicle laws of this State to define and allow for the operation of mini-trucks on roadways with certain restrictions.*

CURRENT LAW: Under current law, mini-trucks are not specifically defined as a category of motor vehicle under Chapter 20.

BILL ANALYSIS: Section 1 of the bill would define a mini-truck as a passenger vehicle, for the purposes of motor vehicle laws, as follows:

- A motor vehicle designed, used, or maintained primarily for the transportation of property; and
 - having four wheels;
 - an engine displacement of 660cc or less;
 - an overall length of 130 inches or less;
 - an overall height of 78 inches or less;
 - and an overall width of 60 inches or less.

Section 2 of the bill would make the registration fee for mini-trucks the same as a private passenger vehicle of not more than 15 passengers (\$36). This section would also require that low-speed vehicles or mini-trucks that are offered for rent would pay the same registration fee of a U-drive it automobile (\$66).

Section 3 of the bill would place restrictions and requirements on the operation of mini-trucks, which would include that:

- Mini-trucks would only be allowed to operate on streets and highways where the posted speed limit is 55 mph or less.
- Mini-trucks are equipped with certain equipment similar to that of a low-speed vehicle.
- Mini-trucks are registered and insured.
- Mini-trucks abide by NCDOT roadway prohibitions in the interest of safety.
- Mini-trucks would not be considered antique or historic vehicles regardless of age.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This bill would become effective when it becomes law.

**Howard Marsilio, Staff Attorney, substantially contributed to this summary.*

Karen Cochrane-Brown
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578