



# HOUSE BILL 179: Mini-Truck Classification.

2019-2020 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	House Commerce. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	<b>Date:</b>	March 13, 2019
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Stevens, Shepard	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Greg Roney Staff Attorney
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		

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**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 with the Legislative Analysis Division substantially contributed to this summary.*

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