

## SENATE BILL 620: Electric Standup Scooters.

This Bill Analysis reflects the contents of the bill as it was presented in committee.

2019-2020 General Assembly

**Committee:** Senate Transportation. If favorable, re-refer to **Date:** July 10, 2019

Commerce and Insurance. If favorable, re-refer

to Rules and Operations of the Senate

Introduced by: Sens. McKissick, Newton Prepared by: Wendy Ray

Analysis of: First Edition Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: Senate Bill 620 would provide a statutory definition for electric standup scooters and exempt them from registration requirements. It would also provide for additional requirements related to operation of scooters and the offering of scooters for hire and would limit local regulation.

**CURRENT LAW:** Current law does not provide a definition for scooters or specifically authorize their use. It is unclear whether a scooter may fall under the definition of moped and be regulated as such.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** *Section 1* of Senate Bill 620 would provide a statutory definition for "electric standup scooter". Electric standup scooter would further be specifically excluded from the definitions of "moped" and "motor vehicle". The definition of "vehicle" would be amended to include electric standup scooters in the same manner as bicycles, in that the provisions of Chapter 20 would apply to them when they are operated upon a highway to the extent that it makes sense to do so.

**Sections 2** of the bill would make clear that electric standup scooters would be exempt from registration requirements.

Section 3 would make a conforming change in the insurance statutes.

**Section 4** would provide additional requirements and regulations pertaining to operation of scooters and operation of scooter share programs that offer scooters to the public for hire. It would also limit the ability of local authorities to regulate the operation of scooters and the operation of scooter share programs.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The act would be effective when it becomes law and would apply to offenses committed on or after that date.

