



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 878

H.P. 627

House of Representatives, March 7, 2017

**An Act To Allow Municipalities To Permit the Operation of Golf
Carts on Municipally Owned Streets**

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative DENNO of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin and
Representative: CHACE of Durham, Senator: BREEN of Cumberland.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2093** is enacted to read:

3 **§2093. Operation of golf carts**

4 A golf cart may be operated on the extreme right of a public way or as directed by the
5 appropriate governmental unit within the public way of a municipality or an unorganized
6 or unincorporated township if the appropriate governmental unit has designated the
7 public way as a golf cart access route. A golf cart must travel in the same direction as
8 motor vehicle traffic on a public way designated as a golf cart access route. A public way
9 designated by an appropriate governmental unit as a golf cart access route must be posted
10 conspicuously at regular intervals by that governmental unit with highly visible signs
11 designating the golf cart access route. Before designating a public way as a golf cart
12 access route, the appropriate governmental unit shall make appropriate determinations
13 that golf cart travel on the extreme right of the public way or as directed by the
14 appropriate governmental unit within the public way may be conducted safely and will
15 not interfere with vehicular traffic on the public way. The appropriate governmental unit
16 may enact ordinances to require a golf cart to be registered with the governmental unit to
17 be used on a golf cart access route in that governmental unit's jurisdiction and regarding
18 the safe operation and required safety features of a golf cart used on a golf cart access
19 route in that governmental unit's jurisdiction. For purposes of this paragraph,
20 "appropriate governmental unit" means the department, county commissioners or
21 municipal officers within their respective jurisdictions. The jurisdiction of each
22 appropriate governmental unit over public ways pursuant to this paragraph is the same as
23 its jurisdiction over the passage of vehicles on public ways pursuant to section 2395.
24 Municipal or county law enforcement officials having jurisdiction have primary
25 enforcement authority over any route established under this paragraph.

26 **SUMMARY**

27 This bill allows municipalities to designate certain public ways as golf cart access
28 routes, similar to existing provisions of law allowing municipalities to designate certain
29 public ways as all-terrain vehicle access routes, and to pass ordinances requiring the
30 registration of golf carts used on the access routes and for the safe operation and required
31 safety features of those golf carts.