87R12103 BEE-D

By:  Springer S.B. No. 1736

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the titling, registration, and operation of an autocycle.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Section 501.008, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 501.008.  TITLE FOR AUTOCYCLE. (a) In this section, "autocycle" means a motor vehicle, other than a tractor, that is:

(1)  designed to operate with [~~have when propelled not more than~~] three wheels in contact with [~~on~~] the ground;

(2)  equipped with a steering wheel; and

(3)  equipped with seating that does not require the operator to straddle or sit astride the seat[~~; and~~

[~~(4)  manufactured and certified to comply with federal safety requirements for a motorcycle~~].

(b)  For purposes of issuing a title under this chapter, an autocycle is considered to be a passenger car, as defined by Section 541.201 [~~motorcycle~~].

SECTION 2.  Section 502.005, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 502.005.  REGISTRATION OF AUTOCYCLE. (a) In this section, "autocycle" has the meaning assigned by Section 501.008 [~~means a motor vehicle, other than a tractor, that is:~~

[~~(1)  designed to have when propelled not more than three wheels on the ground;~~

[~~(2)  equipped with a steering wheel;~~

[~~(3)  equipped with seating that does not require the operator to straddle or sit astride the seat; and~~

[~~(4)  manufactured and certified to comply with federal safety requirements for a motorcycle~~].

(b)  For purposes of registering a vehicle under this chapter, an autocycle is considered to be a passenger car [~~motorcycle~~].

SECTION 3.  Section 521.083, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 521.083.  CLASS C LICENSE. (a) A Class C driver's license authorizes the holder of the license to operate:

(1)  a vehicle or combination of vehicles not described by Section 521.081 or 521.082; and

(2)  a vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of less than 26,001 pounds towing a farm trailer with a gross vehicle weight rating that is not more than 20,000 pounds.

(b)  A holder of a Class C driver's license is authorized to operate an autocycle, as defined by Section 501.008, without meeting the requirements of a Class M license.

SECTION 4.  Section 521.085(b), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b)  Subsection (a) does not prohibit a license holder from operating a lesser type of vehicle that is:

(1)  a motorcycle described by Section 521.001(a)(6-a) [~~or an autocycle as defined by Section 501.008~~]; or

(2)  a type of motorcycle defined by the department under Section 521.001(c) and designated by the department as qualifying for operation under this section.

SECTION 5.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.