

HCS SCS SB 771 -- LOW-SPEED VEHICLES AND COMMERCIAL ZONES

SPONSOR: Bray (Daus)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Transportation and Motor Vehicles by a vote of 20 to 0.

This substitute allows operators of low-speed vehicles to use public highways under certain conditions. A low-speed vehicle is a four-wheeled vehicle whose top speed is greater than 20 miles per hour but less than 25 miles per hour and is manufactured in compliance with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration standards. It cannot be operated on a street or highway with a posted speed limit greater than 35 miles per hour. The vehicle will be exempt from inspection and emission testing, but must comply with the federal standards. Every operator of a low-speed vehicle must maintain financial responsibility and have a driver's license. Cities and counties may promulgate ordinances which are more stringent than the provisions in the substitute.

The substitute also extends the Kansas City commercial zone south along U. S. Highway 71 and State Route 291, including the City of Harrisonville.

FISCAL NOTE: Not available at time of printing.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that low-speed vehicles are a new breed of supplemental, local-use personal transportation.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Bray; and DaimlerChrysler Corporation.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Robert Triplett, Legislative Analyst