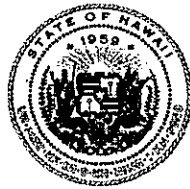


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



GLENN M. OKIMOTO
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
JADE T. BUTAY
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
RANDY GRUNE
JADINE URASAKI

IN REPLY REFER TO:

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097**

January 24, 2012

**HB 101, HD1
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

The Department of Transportation supports HB101, HD1 with the recommendation that it be modified. We recommend leaving the words "propelled solely by human power" in the first paragraph of Section 1.

We agree bicycles with electric motors seem like a viable form of transportation for some people. However, we think it would be better to separate electric bicycles from solely human powered bicycles. This will make it easier to apply restrictions on electric bicycles. For example, if an electric bicycle is heavier than a regular bicycle and it is capable of traveling 25 mph, it may be appropriate to limit electric bicycles to street use, especially if the electric bicycle has more than two wheels. A 25 mph impact with a pedestrian could prove to be serious.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES
CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU
DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLE, LICENSING AND PERMITS
ADMINISTRATION
P.O. BOX 30300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96820-0300

PETER B. CARLISLE
MAYOR



GAIL Y. HARAGUCHI
DIRECTOR

DENNIS A. KAMIMURA
LICENSING ADMINISTRATOR

January 20, 2012

The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
and Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary
House of Representatives
State of Hawaii
State Capitol, Room 302
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran and Committee Members:

Subject: H.B. No. 101 HD1, Relating to Transportation

The City and County of Honolulu agrees with the intent of H.B. No. 101, but recommends clarifying amendments.

For consistency and for the purpose of registering electric powered bicycles in accordance with Section 249-14, HRS, we recommend that the Bill be further amended by providing the same bicycle definition in Section 249-1, HRS:

""Bicycle" means ~~every~~:

- (1) ~~[device propelled solely by human power]~~ A vehicle upon which any person may ride, having two tandem wheels sixteen inches in diameter or greater, and including any [device] vehicle generally recognized as a bicycle though equipped with two front or two rear wheels except a toy bicycle; or
- (2) A vehicle upon which any person may ride that has two tandem wheels, including any vehicle generally recognized as a bicycle even if equipped with two front or two rear wheels and an electric motor that shall produce less than seven hundred fifty watts (1 h.p.) and is capable of propelling the vehicle at a maximum speed of less than twenty miles per hour on a paved level surface."

The City and County of Honolulu recommends your favorable action on H.B. No. 101 HD1, as amended.

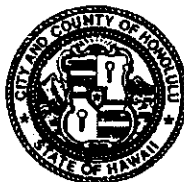
Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Dennis A. Kamimura in black ink.

Dennis A. Kamimura
Licensing Administrator

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 529-3111 · INTERNET: www.honolulu.org



PETER B. CARLISLE
MAYOR

LOUIS M. KEALOHA
CHIEF

DAVE M. KAJIHIRO
MARIE A. MCCAULEY
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE KK-GR

January 24, 2012

The Honorable Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
and Members
Committee on Judiciary
House of Representatives
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran and Members:

Subject: House Bill No. 101, H.D. 1, Relating to Transportation

I am Kurt Kendro, Major of the Traffic Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

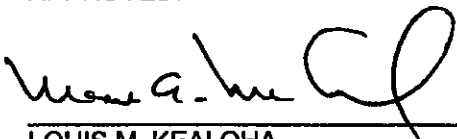
The HPD opposes House Bill No. 101, H.D. 1, Relating to Transportation. This bill would change the definition of bicycle to include a bicycle powered by an electric motor and establishes a maximum speed limit of 20 miles per hour.

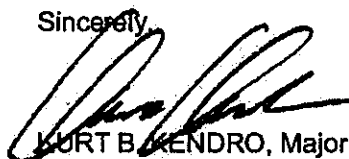
By changing the definition of a bicycle to include an electric bicycle, it would make it legal to ride an electric bicycle on a sidewalk. While laws restrict the speed that a bicycle may be ridden on a sidewalk, passage of this bill could endanger pedestrians who are lawfully on a sidewalk. In addition, this definition could include an electric bicycle as a moped.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

Sincerely,


for LOUIS M. KEALOHA
Chief of Police


KURT B. KENDRO, Major
Traffic Division

Thank you for the opportunity to give my personal written testimony in support of Bill HB101 that amends the definition of "bicycle" to include a bicycle powered by an electronic motor. I fully support this bill in its entirety for the sake of allowing Hawaii residents and visitors an alternate form of clean and quiet transportation that is affordable to most anyone who would like to conserve on oil or energy and promote conservation in the process. Hawaii had a great Electric Bicycle (motorized bicycle) law in place that included an electric bicycle or motorized bicycle to be registered as a bicycle and they were included in the definition of "Bicycle" prior to the Segway legislation a few years ago. Now Hawaii and New York are the only places in our nation that electric bicycles are illegal. Most people have probably never heard of electric bicycles but they are still being sold in Hawaii by people not knowing the law change. With modern technology a 30 lb bicycle can be fitted with a 5 pound electric motor along with a 7 pound battery pack in the frame that make up the light weight electric bicycle. These electric bicycles can go at bicycle speeds for 20 miles with light pedaling or go for 30 miles with moderate pedaling if you want to get more exercise to increase the range. In most countries around the globe millions of electric bikes are sold and used for affordable and efficient transportation. There are examples 1000s of electric bicycle manufacturers that exist around the world on the Internet to allow clean transportation without toxic admissions. Batteries can easily be charged in any home or office by a socket or by a small solar panel on the roof of your home. How many cars could be eliminated off the roads and hotel parking lots if employees had electric bicycles to go to work? Let's say to ride to Kaanapali from Lahaina or Napili and back on Maui. Not to mention the savings at a cost of less than 15 cents a charge for a one hour twenty mile round trip. The bottom line is let's get these world's most efficient vehicles (bicycles) out on our unused bike ways and provide an alternate to almost anyone that otherwise has to drive there gas guzzling cars needlessly. Electric bicycles could be used as island wide transportation in the bikeways of course at a slower pace than a car but more affordable. At times riding an electric bicycle you can save on time, especially when auto traffic is gridlock and you only need to go a few miles. In these changing times Electric Bicycles should be first on the list towards renewable energy, a diversified economy, and transportation projects here in Hawaii. Thank you for your consideration in passing this bill intact that Hawaii and the people of the world can be proud of.

Thank you, Randal Draper