
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU PROHIBIT
ELECTRIC SCOOTERS, ELECTRIC BICYCLES, AND ELECTRIC TRIKES
ON SIDEWALKS.

1 WHEREAS, electric scooters, electric bicycles, and three-
2 wheeled electric trikes have become widely available for
3 personal transportation and very popular with commercial tour
4 operators and are often ridden on Oahu's sidewalks, where they
5 mix with pedestrians and motorists; and

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7 WHEREAS, while electric scooters, electric bicycles, and
8 electric trikes are convenient, affordable, and more
9 environmentally friendly than automobiles, they can present a
10 safety hazard when ridden on sidewalks; and

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12 WHEREAS, electric scooters, electric bicycles, and electric
13 trikes can weigh more than forty pounds and can be upgraded with
14 additional motors that allow the devices to reach speeds of
15 eighteen miles per hour, which is nearly six times faster than
16 the average walking speed of a person; and

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18 WHEREAS, electric scooters, electric bicycles, and electric
19 trikes can seriously injure or kill pedestrians in a collision
20 and operators of these devices are at risk from motorists who do
21 not expect a small, quiet, and fast-moving motorized device to
22 appear in pedestrian rights-of-way; and

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24 WHEREAS, in 2003, the Legislature passed Act 180, which
25 defines an "electric personal assistive mobility device" as a
26 self-balancing, two-wheeled, non-tandem-wheeled device, designed
27 to transport only one person, using an electric propulsion
28 system that limits the maximum speed of the device to twelve and
29 a half miles per hour or less; and



1 WHEREAS, Act 180 states that unless otherwise prohibited or
2 regulated by a county ordinance, electric personal assistive
3 mobility devices may be operated on sidewalks at a speed no
4 greater than eight miles per hour and on bicycle paths in the
5 State; and

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7 WHEREAS, many electric scooters and electric bicycles are
8 allowed on sidewalks and bike paths as electric personal
9 assistive mobility devices in the absence of county regulations
10 and, although three-wheeled electric trikes do not necessarily
11 fall within this definition, they are frequently used by
12 individuals and tour operators on pedestrian paths; and

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14 WHEREAS, within the past several years, pedestrians and
15 motorists have expressed safety concerns to policymakers about
16 the increasing number of individuals and tour operators riding
17 electric scooters, electric bicycles, and electric trikes on
18 sidewalks and bike paths; and

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20 WHEREAS, because of safety risks to pedestrians, motorists,
21 and operators of electric scooters, electric bicycles, and
22 electric trikes, these devices should be prohibited on sidewalks
23 and bike paths; and

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25 WHEREAS, however, any prohibition on riding electric
26 scooters, electric bicycles, and electric trikes on sidewalks
27 must exempt senior and disabled individuals because those
28 mobility devices may be their only convenient and safe means of
29 transportation or may be a necessity to engage in activities of
30 daily living; and

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32 WHEREAS, electric scooters, electric bicycles, and electric
33 trikes should be categorized as "mopeds" under the Hawaii
34 Revised Statutes and "motorized devices" under the Revised
35 Ordinances of Honolulu, as both definitions prohibit operation
36 of these devices on sidewalks; and

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38 WHEREAS, policymakers must balance the advantages of
39 useful, emerging mobility device technology with public safety,
40 particularly in crowded transportation environments such as
41 Oahu's business districts and urban core; now, therefore,



