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# SENATE 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 are a safety  
10 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 one-half miles per hour or less; and  
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31           WHEREAS, Act 180 states that unless otherwise prohibited or  
32 regulated by a county ordinance, electric personal assistive  
33 mobility devices may be operated on sidewalks at a speed no



1 greater than eight miles per hour and on bicycle paths in the  
2 State; and  
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4 WHEREAS, many electric scooters and electric bicycles are  
5 allowed on sidewalks and bike paths as electric personal  
6 assistive mobility devices in the absence of county regulations  
7 and, although three-wheeled electric trikes do not necessarily  
8 fall within this definition, they are frequently used by  
9 individuals and tour operators on pedestrian paths; and  
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11 WHEREAS, within the past several years, pedestrians and  
12 motorists have expressed safety concerns to policymakers about  
13 the increasing number of individuals and tour operators riding  
14 electric scooters, electric bicycles, and electric trikes on  
15 sidewalks and bike paths; and  
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17 WHEREAS, because of safety risks to pedestrians, motorists,  
18 and operators of electric scooters, electric bicycles, and  
19 electric trikes, these devices should be prohibited on sidewalks  
20 and bike paths; and  
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22 WHEREAS, policymakers must balance the advantages of  
23 useful, emerging mobility device technology with public safety,  
24 particularly in crowded transportation environments such as  
25 Oahu's business districts and urban core; now, therefore,  
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27 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature  
28 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the City  
29 and County of Honolulu, Honolulu Police Department, Honolulu  
30 Department of Transportation Services, and state Department of  
31 Transportation are requested to work with the Honolulu City  
32 Council to prohibit the operation of electric scooters, electric  
33 bicycles, and electric trikes on sidewalks through county-level  
34 ordinances; and  
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Honolulu Department of  
37 Transportation Services is requested to submit a report of its  
38 findings and recommendations for regulation of electric  
39 scooters, electric bicycles, and electric trikes, including any  
40 proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty  
41 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2021; and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation,  
3 Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, Chairperson of the  
4 Honolulu City Council, Chief of the Honolulu Police Department,  
5 and Director of Transportation Services.

