

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



TESTIMONY BY:

EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

Deputy Directors
Nā Hope Luna Ho'okele
DREANALEE K. KALILI
TAMMY L. LEE
ROBIN K. SHISHIDO

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 8, 2024
9:00 A. M.
State Capitol, RM 312

H.B. 2580
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

House Committee on Transportation and Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.B. 2580 which prohibits the removal of a manufacturer or factory-installed speed limiting device from an electric bicycle. Prohibits the operation of an electric bicycle, in which the manufacturer- or factory-installed speed limiting device was removed from the electric bicycle, on a public highway.

Delimiting, e-bike tuning, or de-restriction is a known hack that removes the pedal assist speed restrictions. Removing the speed limiting device and replacing with an aftermarket delimiter could result in bike reaching between 30 and 37 miles per hour.ⁱ Modifying an e-bike to go faster than designed will put the operator at greater risk of injury, voiding their manufactures warranty, and compromising the integrity of a lithium-ion battery, which can increase fire risk.

DOT offers the following suggestion, which would complement this measure by adding Classes of electronic bicycles to HRS 291C-1 and 286 to further clarify the electronic bicycles, and thus would allow enforcement of speed, limitations on age, location, roadway class in which the different classes of e-bicycles are allowed to operate.

- **Class 1:** Bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the electric bicycles reaches 20 mph.
- **Class 2:** Bicycle equipped with a throttle-actuated motor, that ceases to provide assistance when the electric bicycle reaches 20 mph.
- **Class 3:** Bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the electric bicycle reaches 28 mph.

When two or three wheeled electronic vehicles no longer have pedals, and or exceed 28 miles per hour, they should be treated under similar requirements as either mopeds, motor scooters, or motorcycles.

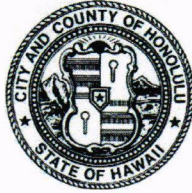
Passing this measure and adding a class system for electronic bicycles would put our policies in line with other states in regulating electronic bikes and as it would lay the foundation to create clarity and consistency for distributors and consumers.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

ⁱ <https://bikefinest.com/electric-bike-speed-limiter-removal/>

POLICE DEPARTMENT
KA 'OIHANA MĀKA'I O HONOLULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
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ARTHUR J. LOGAN
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KAHU MĀKA'I

KEITH K. HORIKAWA
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DEPUTY CHIEFS
HOPE LUNA NUI MĀKA'I

OUR REFERENCE **ST-TK**

February 8, 2024

The Honorable Chris Todd, Chair
and Members
Committee on Transportation
House of Representatives
415 South Beretania Street, Room 312
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Todd and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 2580, Relating to Transportation

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

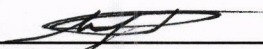
The HPD opposes House Bill No. 2580, Relating to Transportation.

The HPD opposes the proposal that prohibits the removal of a manufacturer or factory-installed speed-limiting device from an electric bicycle. Although we understand the intent of the bill, it will be very difficult for a law enforcement officer to determine if a governing device was removed or not. The correct verbiage should be "tamper with" which would also include modifying the governing device.

The HPD urges you to oppose House Bill No. 2580, Relating to Transportation, and we appreciate the committee's consideration of our concerns. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

Sincerely,


Arthur J. Logan
Chief of Police


Stason Tanaka, Major
Traffic Division

HB-2580

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 4:57:40 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/8/2024 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Monica Amigo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I suppose this. Safety is important.

HB-2580

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 7:02:25 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/8/2024 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kalani	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I don't see the point to this. I think that people should be allowed to do what they want with their stuff. It's not hurting anyone.

HB-2580

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 1:18:49 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/8/2024 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justin Lam	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee. I oppose this bill.

The language is unclear how law enforcement can and will establish if a speed limiter has been removed from an electric bike. Law enforcement has enough on their plate without having to try and pull over e-bikes.