
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 291C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to part XII to be appropriately
3 designated and to read as follows:

4 "§291C- Safe riding behavior; electric bicycles. (a)
5 All electric bicycles shall be operated only with all wheels on
6 the ground at all times, facing forward, and with the operator
7 seated with one leg on each side of the seat; provided that it
8 is not a violation of this subsection if the wheels lose contact
9 with the ground briefly due to the conditions of the road
10 surface or other circumstances beyond the control of the
11 operator.

12 (b) The following shall be prohibited while operating an
13 electric bicycle:

14 (1) Operating an electric bicycle in an unsafe manner or
15 engaging in exhibition driving on any public street,
16 alley, or other public right of way; provided that
17 this paragraph shall not apply to a person engaging in



1 exhibition riding as part of a parade, tournament, or
 2 other activity permitted by a state or county
 3 government agency;

4 (2) Standing or kneeling on any seat, riding on the
 5 handlebars, or engaging in any other non-standing
 6 riding position; and

7 (3) Engaging in any other maneuver that endangers the
 8 operator or any person."

9 SECTION 2. Section 249-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
 10 amended as follows:

11 1. By adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted
 12 and to read:

13 "Electric bicycle" means a bicycle equipped with fully
 14 operable pedals and an electric motor of no more than seven
 15 hundred fifty watts that meets the requirements of one of the
 16 following classes:

17 (1) Class 1: an electric bicycle equipped with a motor
 18 that provides assistance only when the rider is
 19 pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when
 20 the bicycle reaches the speed of twenty miles per
 21 hour;



1 (2) Class 2: an electric bicycle equipped with a motor
2 that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle and
3 that is not capable of providing assistance when the
4 bicycle reaches the speed of twenty miles per hour; or

5 (3) Class 3: an electric bicycle equipped with a motor
6 that provides assistance only when the rider is
7 pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when
8 the bicycle reaches the speed of twenty-eight miles
9 per hour and equipped with a speedometer."

10 2. By amending the definition of "bicycle" to read:

11 ""Bicycle" means:

12 (1) A device propelled solely by human power upon which
13 any person may ride, having two tandem wheels sixteen
14 inches in diameter or greater, and including any
15 device generally recognized as a bicycle though
16 equipped with two front or two rear wheels; or

17 ~~[(2) A low-speed electric bicycle, as defined under title~~
18 ~~15 United States Code section 2085.]~~

19 (2) An electric bicycle."

20 SECTION 3. Section 249-14, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
21 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:



1 "(b) [~~A low-speed~~] An electric bicycle~~[, as defined under~~
2 ~~title 15 United States Code section 2085,~~] shall be required to
3 be registered, and shall be subject to a permanent registration
4 fee of \$30, to be paid by the owners thereof to the director of
5 finance."

6 SECTION 4. Section 291C-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended as follows:

8 1. By adding two new definitions to be appropriately
9 inserted and to read:

10 "Electric bicycle" means a bicycle equipped with fully
11 operable pedals and an electric motor of no more than seven
12 hundred fifty watts that meets the requirements of one of the
13 following classes:

14 (1) Class 1: an electric bicycle equipped with a motor
15 that provides assistance only when the rider is
16 pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when
17 the bicycle reaches the speed of twenty miles per
18 hour;

19 (2) Class 2: an electric bicycle equipped with a motor
20 that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle and



1 that is not capable of providing assistance when the
2 bicycle reaches the speed of twenty miles per hour; or
3 (3) Class 3: an electric bicycle equipped with a motor
4 that provides assistance only when the rider is
5 pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when
6 the bicycle reaches the speed of twenty-eight miles
7 per hour and equipped with a speedometer.

8 "Electric micro mobility device" means a device weighing no
9 more than pounds that is fully or partially motorized and
10 used for personal transportation, such as one-wheels and
11 electric skateboards. "Electric micro mobility device" does not
12 include electric bicycles or electric foot scooters."

13 2. By amending the definition of "bicycle" to read:

14 ""Bicycle" means:

15 (1) A vehicle propelled solely by human power upon which
16 any person may ride, having two tandem wheels, and
17 including any vehicle generally recognized as a
18 bicycle though equipped with two front or two rear
19 wheels except a toy bicycle; or

20 ~~[(2) A low-speed electric bicycle, as defined under title~~
21 ~~15 United States Code section 2085.]~~



1 (2) An electric bicycle."

2 SECTION 5. Section 291C-123, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
3 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

4 "(a) No person shall drive any vehicle other than a
5 bicycle, electric foot scooter, electric micro mobility device,
6 or moped upon a bicycle lane or bicycle path, except upon a
7 permanent or authorized temporary driveway, or park any vehicle
8 upon a bicycle lane or bicycle path; provided that any vehicle
9 may be driven or parked in a bicycle lane or bicycle path as
10 applicable if:

11 (1) It is in the process of executing a legal turn, lane
12 change, or parking maneuver;

13 (2) It is an authorized emergency vehicle performing the
14 functions under section 291C-26;

15 (3) It is an official federal, state, or county vehicle in
16 the performance of its actual duty;

17 (4) It is a stalled or broken vehicle;

18 (5) It is necessary to assist a stalled or broken vehicle;

19 (6) It is necessary to yield to an authorized emergency
20 vehicle pursuant to section 291C-65; or

21 (7) It is otherwise provided by law."



1 SECTION 6. Section 291C-139, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "[+]§291C-139[+] **Electric foot scooters[-]; electric micro**
4 **mobility devices.** (a) This section shall apply whenever an
5 electric foot scooter or electric micro mobility device is
6 operated upon any highway, street, roadway, or other designated
7 public area set aside for the use of electric foot scooters.

8 (b) Every person operating an electric foot scooter or
9 electric micro mobility device upon a roadway shall be granted
10 all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties
11 applicable to a driver of a vehicle under this chapter, except
12 as to provisions of this:

13 (1) Section to the contrary; and

14 (2) Chapter that, by their nature, can have no
15 application.

16 (c) The counties by ordinance shall regulate operations of
17 electric foot scooters and electric micro mobility device with
18 regard to, but not limited to, the following:

19 (1) Operations in or upon roadways, bikeways, bicycle
20 paths, and sidewalks;

21 (2) Storage and docking locations;



1 (3) Restrictions on maximum speed;

2 (4) Safety considerations; and

3 (5) Insurance requirements;

4 provided that no authority adopted in accordance with this
5 subsection shall be less restrictive than the requirements set
6 forth in this section.

7 (d) No person under fifteen years of age shall operate an
8 electric foot scooter or electric micro mobility device on a
9 highway, street, roadway, or any other public property in the
10 State. No person under [~~sixteen~~] eighteen years of age shall
11 operate an electric foot scooter or electric micro mobility
12 device unless the person wears a safety helmet securely fastened
13 with a chin strap. The safety helmet shall meet the
14 specifications of and requirements for a bicycle helmet as set
15 out in section 291C-150.

16 (e) No person shall operate an electric foot scooter or
17 electric micro mobility device that is carrying any other
18 person, nor shall any person other than the operator ride upon
19 an electric foot scooter.

20 (f) No person operating an electric foot scooter or
21 electric micro mobility device shall carry any package, bundle,



1 or article that prevents the use of both hands in the control
2 and operation of the electric foot scooter.

3 (g) Any electric foot scooter or electric micro mobility
4 device used from thirty minutes after sunset until thirty
5 minutes before sunrise shall meet the specifications of and
6 requirements for lamps and other equipment on bicycles as set
7 out in section 291C-147; provided that in lieu of the
8 requirement of section 291C-147(b), every electric foot scooter
9 or electric micro mobility device shall be equipped with a
10 lighted lamp that is visible from the rear.

11 (h) No person shall operate an electric foot scooter or
12 electric micro mobility device at a speed other than is
13 reasonable and prudent and having regard to the actual and
14 potential hazards and conditions then existing; provided that no
15 person shall operate an electric foot scooter or electric micro
16 mobility device at a speed greater than fifteen miles per hour.

17 (i) Any person who operates an electric foot scooter or
18 electric micro mobility device recklessly in disregard of the
19 safety of persons or property shall be assessed penalties as set
20 forth in section 291C-161(b).



(j) A person or entity that provides electric foot scooters or electric micro mobility devices for hire shall not rent or lease an electric foot scooter or electric micro mobility device to any person unless:

(1) Each renter or lessee that is under the age of ~~[sixteen]~~ eighteen wears a safety helmet, as required by subsection (d), while operating the electric foot scooter~~[+]~~ or electric micro mobility device; and

(2) Each renter or lessee is provided with a copy of the electric foot scooter and electric micro mobility device ordinances or rules that have been adopted by the applicable county.

(k) Electric foot scooters and electric micro mobility device shall only be stored or docked at specific locations that shall be authorized by the counties."

SECTION 7. Section 291C-143.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

"~~[+]~~~~\$291C-143.5[+]~~ ~~Low-speed electric bicycles;~~ Electric bicycle operator age. No person under the age of fifteen shall operate ~~[a low-speed]~~ an electric bicycle ~~[as defined under title 15 United States Code section 2085]~~."



1 SECTION 8. Section 291C-145, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsection (g) to read as follows:

3 "(g) No person shall ride a bicycle equipped with a motor
4 on any sidewalk[-]; provided that a person may ride an electric
5 bicycle on a sidewalk at a speed not exceeding ten miles per
6 hour. The counties may, by ordinance, post bicycle lanes and
7 bicycle paths to prevent persons riding a bicycle equipped with
8 a motor from using them."

9 SECTION 9. Section 291C-150, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

11 "(a) No person under [~~sixteen~~] eighteen years of age shall
12 operate a bicycle upon a street, bikeway, or any other public
13 property unless that person is wearing a properly fitted and
14 fastened bicycle helmet that has been tested by a nationally
15 recognized agency such as the National Highway Traffic Safety
16 Administration, the National Safety Council, or the Children's
17 Safety Network, and is designed to fit the user and protect
18 against head trauma. This requirement also applies to a person
19 who rides upon a bicycle while in a restraining seat that is
20 attached to the bicycle or who rides in a trailer towed by the
21 bicycle."



1 SECTION 10. Section 291C-197, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "§291C-197 ~~[Driving mopeds on bicycle]~~ Restrictions for
4 bicycle lanes and paths. ~~[(a) Wherever bicycle lanes are~~
5 ~~provided on the roadway, moped drivers shall use such bicycle~~
6 ~~lanes.~~

7 ~~-(b)]~~ (a) The director of transportation by rule and ~~[the]~~
8 counties by ordinance may, with respect to bicycle paths under
9 their respective jurisdictions, restrict or prohibit the use of
10 ~~[such]~~ bicycle paths by mopeds. Signs clearly visible to an
11 ordinarily observant person indicating the restriction or
12 prohibition shall be placed along bicycle paths so designated
13 and every moped driver shall obey the directions thereof.

14 ~~[-(e)]~~ (b) This section shall not apply to a three-wheeled
15 moped."

16 SECTION 11. Section 286-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended by deleting the definition of "bicycle".

18 ~~["Bicycle" means:~~

19 ~~(1) A device propelled solely by human power upon which~~
20 ~~any person may ride, having two tandem wheels sixteen~~
21 ~~inches in diameter or greater, and including any~~



1 ~~device generally recognized as a bicycle though~~
2 ~~equipped with two front or two rear wheels; or~~
3 ~~(2) A low speed electric bicycle, as defined under title~~
4 ~~15 United States Code section 2085."]~~

5 SECTION 12. There is appropriated out of the general
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
7 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and
8 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
9 year 2026-2027 for the department of transportation, in
10 consultation with each county department of transportation, to
11 conduct a coordinated education campaign on electric mobility
12 devices.

13 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
14 of transportation for the purposes of this Act.

15 SECTION 13. Sections 249-1, 249-9.2, 286-2, 286-81, 286-
16 81.5, 286-102, 286-102.6, 286-108, 286-109, 286-110, 291-11,
17 291-22, 291-25, 291-31, 291-31.5, 291C-1, 291C-206, 431:10C-103,
18 431:10C-304, 431:10C-305, 431:10C-408, 431:10G-101, 431:10G-102,
19 431:10G-103, 431:10G-104, 431:10G-105, 431:10G-106, 431:10G-107,
20 431:10G-108, 431:10G-201, 431:10G-202, 431:10G-206, 431:10G-301,
21 437-7, 437B-1, 481I-2, and 604A-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, are



H.B. NO. 958

1 amended by substituting the word "motor driven cycle", or
2 similar term, wherever the word "motor scooter", or similar
3 term, appears, as the context requires.

4 SECTION 14. This Act does not affect rights and duties
5 that matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that
6 were begun before its effective date.

7 SECTION 15. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
8 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 16. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

10

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 21 2025



H.B. NO. 958

Report Title:

Electric Bicycles; Electric Micro Mobility Devices; Regulation;
Electric Mobility Devices; Education Campaign; Appropriation

Description:

Requires all bicycles equipped with motors to be operated only with all wheels on the ground at all times, with certain exceptions. Prohibits certain actions while operating a bicycle equipped with a motor. Defines "electric bicycle" in place of "low-speed electric bicycle". Defines "electric micro mobility device" and requires the same regulations as electric foot scooters to apply to electric micro mobility devices. Authorizes a person to ride an electric bicycle on a sidewalk at a speed not exceeding ten miles per hour. Prohibits a person from operating a bicycle or electric foot scooter under the age of eighteen without a helmet. Repeals the requirement that moped drivers use bicycle lanes. Substitutes the word "motor drive cycle" with the word "motor scooter". Appropriates funds for a coordinated education campaign on electric mobility devices.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

