

Submitter: Kevin Schaper

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB2571

I strongly support HB 2571.

When I bought my first electric cargo bike a decade ago I joked about having a “One Less Tesla” sticker on the bike, and in the time since that is very much what having e-bikes has accomplished. An electric bike can’t replace a car for every person, for every trip, but after thousands of miles of car trips replaced by electric cargo bike, my family opted recently to sell our single car and rent if we really need to drive.

Simply put, this money will punch above its weight class in reducing emissions, congestion and road maintenance costs. The evidence shows that people who own electric bikes, and especially electric cargo bikes, replace car trips. Denver found that the subsidized e-bikes in their program averaged 26 miles per week, replacing 3.4 car trips.

Over the course of 5 years, that means that each subsidized ebike will mean an average of over 6700 miles not driven.

Finally, I have often looked at the current electric vehicle subsidy program and thought it was particularly strange that we currently will subsidize electric motorcycles, but not the electric cargo bike that I use to pick up my groceries and take my 6 year old to the playground.