

Submitter: Aaron Kuehn

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB2571

To spur positive change in our transportation system that is reliant on individual vehicle ownership, rebates are an effective tool. Electric cars and trucks are eligible for a variety of substantial rebates, but electric bicycles are not, which is a problem because Oregon needs to shift more trips from cars and trucks to bike. I do not own an e-bike yet because they are expensive, and that is probably the case for most Oregonians. I am lucky to live in a city that has an e-bike sharing system that is very popular, but there are limits to a sharing system. It can be challenging to reliably find a shared e-bike, there are service area boundaries, and shared e-bikes are more expensive per trip than transit or private car. For every day use, private ownership is currently the most reliable and cost effective, but the initial purchase price still puts e-bikes out of reach for many Oregonians who would benefit from an easy, healthy, safe, climate friendly transportation solution. This proposed rebate would help solve these equity problems and make e-bikes a more reliable and affordable transportation option for everyone.