

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Transportation

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4007

I support some parts of HB 4007. I support creating uniform safety standards for ebike safety. However, I disagree with changing the law to allow 14-year-olds to be able to ride a class 1 ebike. The current law states that all ebikes are only allowed for persons 16 years old and up. I don't believe that middle school students are a responsible age category to be included for use of ebikes/scooters. I also think that changing the law to allow 14-year-olds one style of bike, but 16 and up another style of bike makes it confusing for parents/ and teens that are purchasing the bikes. I am an educator who works with a variety of schools from elementary school through high school. There are current students that are 14 years old illegally riding escooters/bikes out of their school very erratically, not wearing helmets, and posing a safety threat to themselves and others. I have also seen elementary school students zooming out of their school into the road with ebikes/scooters. I wish there could be a ban of ebikes/scooters for all elementary and middle schools, just like many districts have done with cell phone usage in schools.

I would also implore law makers to create some kind of license to be able to ride escooters/bikes. These are motor vehicles! They travel 20 plus mph with young people who have not even learned traffic laws. There are also easy YouTube videos students can access to modify their bike from a 20-mph vehicle to a 40-mph vehicle. In that way I also agree with reducing unsafe and illegal vehicles and batteries that are a part of the HB4007 bill. I would also think that just like it is the law to wear a seat belt for safety in a motor vehicle, people should be required to wear a helmet on an ebike/scooter.

There absolutely needs to be an investment in micromobility for the safety of all people in our community.