

Submitter:

Mark Houston

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Transportation

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4007

As a avid walker and cyclist I will start off by stating the fact that I do not like to share sidewalks and walking trails with powered bikes, scooters , skateboards and uni - wheels. Most of the riders are polite but a substantial percentage are a hazard to other sidewalk and trail users. I walk every day in my home city of Tigard and I can say that enforcement of current e-bike rules is non existent. E-bikes being ridden on sidewalks and by small children and careless riders on the streets are a hazard I see on a daily basis.I also see bikes that are not street or trail legal operated in both areas daily. Being passed by electric motorcycles riding a wheelie isn't my idea of a relaxing walk while on the Fanno creek trail. I have seen electric powered bikes traveling at twenty miles per hour on crowded downtown Tigard side walks.Parents out riding riding e-bikes with children who are not old enough to ride legally are also a daily occurrence as are younger children riding hi powered illegal e-bikes.My point for bringing this up comes down to enforcement .You can pass all the laws you want but without enforcement it is just a waste of your time and my money. Sales of illegal bikes and bikes easily modified to violate the rules are everywhere. Many of the e-bikes being sold in Oregon are not legal to ride anywhere but private property, yet they are very common .I am all for seeing them regulated and seeing rider laws enforced but am not at all optimistic any new law will help as enforcement will never happen. We live in a state where these type of laws are mostly ignored and even more rarely enforced.