nishimoto2-Bryce

From:

SolarCraft [SolarCraft@hawaii.rr.com]

Sent:

Monday, January 28, 2008 1:18 AM

To:

TRNtestimony

Cc:

Rep. Angus McKelvey; Tish Mercado; Rep. Joe Bertram III

Subject:

Re: Bill 2421

Attachments: longrangebikes.jpg



---- Original Message -----

From: SolarCraft

To: repnishimoto@hawaii.gov

Cc: repmckelvey@Capitol.hawaii.gov; Tish Mercado; Rep. Joe Bertram III

Sent: Friday, January 25, 2008 12:17 PM

Subject: Bill 2421

Hawaii had a great Electric bicycle (motorized bicycle) law in place that included a electric bike or motorized bicycle to be registered as a bicycle and included in the definition prior to the Segway legislations...Now all of Hawaii and New York are the only places in our nation that electric bikes are illegal. Most people have probably never heard of electric bikes but they are being still being sold in Hawaii by people not knowing the law changes. With modern technology a 20 lb bicycle can fitted with a 5 lb electric motor along with a 7 lb battery pack in the frame that make up the light weight 32 lb Bike. These electric bicycles can go at bicycle speeds for 20 miles without pedaling or go for 30 miles with pedaling if you want to work up a little sweat for a work out to increase the range. For each additional 7 lb battery just add on another 20 miles of no pedaling range or a range of 25 to 30 miles with light to moderate pedaling. In most countries around the globe millions of electric bikes are sold and used for affordable and efficient transportation. Electric bicycles are illegal in Hawaii even though President Bush signed a low speed vehicle law and description as a consumer product (being a electric bike) in 2002. There are examples 1000s of electric bicycle manufactures that exist around the world on the internet to allow clean transportation without toxic admissions by using the sun and wind as the source of power. Batteries can easily be charged in any home or at work by a socket or by a small solar panel or wind turbine at home. How many cars could be eliminated off the roads and hotel parking lots if employees had electric bikes to go to work at lets say to Kaanapali from Lahaina or Napili and back? Not to mention the savings at less than 20 cents a charge for a 1 hour 20 mile round trip. The bottom line is lets get these worlds most efficient machines on out on our unused bike lanes and provide a alternate to myself or anyone that otherwise has to drive there gas guzzling cars needlessly. All electric bicycles and other electric vehicles that could be used as island wide transportation in the bikeways. Of course at a slower pace than a car but a much more affordable and cleaner concept especially when auto traffic is gridlock and you only need to go a few miles without sweating or sweating about getting to work or home on time.. In these changing times Electric bicycles should be first on the list towards renewable energy, diversified economy, and transportation projects here in Hawaii.

Aloha, Randy Draper

KOKAM Long Range Ebike



