SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU PROTECT PEDESTRIANS ON SIDEWALKS BY CREATING SEPARATE FACILITIES FOR ELECTRIC SCOOTERS, ELECTRIC BICYCLES, AND ELECTRIC TRIKES.

WHEREAS, electric scooters, electric bicycles, and three-wheeled electric trikes have become widely available for personal transportation, are very popular with commercial tour operators, and are often ridden on Oahu's sidewalks where they mix with pedestrians and motorists; and

WHEREAS, while electric scooters, electric bicycles, and electric trikes are convenient, affordable, and more environmentally—friendly than automobiles, they are a safety hazard when ridden on sidewalks; and

WHEREAS, electric scooters, electric bicycles, and electric trikes can weigh more than forty pounds and can be modified to allow the devices to reach speeds of eighteen miles per hour, which is nearly six times faster than the average walking speed of a person; and

WHEREAS, electric scooters, electric bicycles, and electric trikes can seriously injure or kill pedestrians in a collision and operators of these devices are at risk from motorists who do not expect a small, quiet, and fast—moving motorized device to appear in pedestrian rights-of-way; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature passed Act 180, Session Laws of Hawaii 2003 (Act 180), which defines an "electric personal assistive mobility device" as a self-balancing, two-wheeled, non-tandem-wheeled device, designed to transport only one person, using an electric propulsion system that limits the maximum speed of the device to twelve and one-half miles per hour or less; and

WHEREAS, Act 180 states that unless otherwise prohibited or regulated by a county ordinance, electric personal assistive mobility devices may be operated on sidewalks at a speed no greater than eight miles per hour and on bicycle paths in the State; and

WHEREAS, in the absence of county regulations, many electric scooters and electric bicycles are allowed on sidewalks and bike paths as electric personal assistive mobility devices and, although three—wheeled electric trikes do not necessarily fall within this definition, they are frequently used by individuals and tour operators on pedestrian paths; and

WHEREAS, within the past several years, pedestrians and motorists have expressed safety concerns to policymakers about the increasing number of individuals and tour operators riding electric scooters, electric bicycles, and electric trikes on sidewalks; and

WHEREAS, policymakers must balance the advantages of useful, emerging mobility device technology with public safety, particularly in crowded transportation environments such as Oahu's business districts and urban core; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the
House of Representatives concurring, that the City and County of
Honolulu, Honolulu Police Department, Honolulu Department of
Transportation Services, and Department of Transportation are
requested to work with the Honolulu City Council to protect
pedestrians on the sidewalks by providing separate protected
facilities for the operation of electric scooters, electric
bicycles, and electric trikes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Honolulu Department of Transportation Services is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2022; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of
Transportation, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu,
Chairperson of the Honolulu City Council, Chief of the Honolulu
Police Department, and Director of Transportation Services of
the City and County of Honolulu.