

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

202

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 06 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 708
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Transportation, to which was referred H.B. No. 708 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require and regulate insurance coverage for the operation of electric bicycles in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Kauai Path, Inc.; PeopleForBikes Coalition; Hawai'i Bicycling League; Get Fit Kauai; and seven individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that the increasing popularity of electric bicycles in Hawaii has led to a rise in accidents and injuries involving these vehicles, highlighting a gap in the existing insurance and liability framework. Many electric bicycle operators are not required to carry insurance, leaving riders and other individuals on the road vulnerable in the event of an accident. This measure ensures the safety and accountability of electric bicycle operations by mandating liability insurance.

2025-1363 HB708 HD1 HSCR HMSO



Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting all references to class 1 electric bicycles and class 2 electric bicycles;
- (2) Amending the definitions of "class 3 electric bicycle" and "electric bicycle";
- (3) Specifying that electric bicycle insurance requirements only apply to a county with a population of five hundred thousand or more;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 708, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 708, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Transportation,

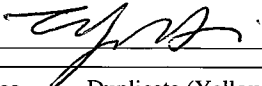


DARIUS KILA, Chair



HSCR 202

Record of Votes of the Committee on Transportation

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 708	Committee Referral: TRN, JHA, CPC	Date: 2/4/25		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
TRN Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. KILA, Darius K. (C)	✓			
2. GRANDINETTI, Tina Nakada (VC)	✓			
3. COCHRAN, Elle				✓
4. EVSLIN, Luke A.			✓	
5. KITAGAWA, Lisa	✓			
6. LA CHICA, Trish	✓			
7. MIYAKE, Tyson K.	✓			
8. MURAOKA, Christopher L.	✓			
9. PIERICK, Elijah	✓			
TOTAL (9)	7		1	1
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <small>committee acronym(s)</small>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: 				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				