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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that electric bicycles  
2 have become widely available for personal transportation and are  
3 popular among citizens of all ages. In March 2023, there were  
4 five thousand three hundred registered electric bicycles. This  
5 figure is potentially higher, considering that many owners do  
6 not register their bikes, especially if they are purchased  
7 online.

8 The legislature further finds that preliminary data from  
9 the department of transportation shows that from the start of  
10 2025 till early September, there has been ninety-three traffic  
11 deaths statewide. This is a stark difference compared to the  
12 sixty-six traffic fatalities that occurred at the same time last  
13 year. Approximately ninety-one per cent of the deaths involved  
14 risky or negligent behavior such as speeding, failure to yield,  
15 improper pedestrian actions, and failing to use safety equipment  
16 such as seat belts and helmets. Safety of Hawaii's roadways  
17 continues to be a persistent matter of public concern. The



1 legislature believes that, in the wake of a recent surge in  
2 ridership accidents, it is critical to address the unsafe  
3 operation of electric bicycles.

4 The purpose of this Act is to:

5 (1) Require, rather than just authorize, the department of  
6 education to develop and administer a traffic safety  
7 education program; and

8 (2) Require the department of education's traffic safety  
9 education program to include electric bicycles.

10 SECTION 2. Section 302A-417, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 **"[§] 302A-417[§] Traffic safety education.** (a) The  
13 department [may] shall establish and administer a traffic safety  
14 education program to be conducted at each public school for  
15 students from grades kindergarten through twelve. The program  
16 shall include, but not be limited to, general electric bicycle  
17 riding safety, rules of the road, and laws pertaining to  
18 electric bicycles.

19 (b) The department may establish the requirements for the  
20 position of traffic safety education specialist and may employ  
21 at least one traffic safety education specialist for the



1 purposes of this section. The traffic safety education  
2 specialist may be paid out of fees allocated to the director of  
3 commerce and consumer affairs from the special drivers education  
4 fund account pursuant to section 431:10C-115."

5 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
6 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

7 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



**Report Title:**

DOE; E-Bikes; Educational Safety Program

**Description:**

Requires, rather than authorizes, the Department of Education to develop and administer a Traffic Safety Program. Requires the Department of Education's Traffic Safety Education program to include electric bicycles. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

