



E-MICROMOBILITY REGULATION AND INVESTING IN DEVICE EDUCATION AND SAFETY (E-RIDES) BILL

Background

The growth of the e-micromobility market (e-bikes, Segways, e-scooters, etc.) and increased rates of ridership over the last several years have highlighted gaps and inconsistencies in current statute and insufficient safety education.

Problem

Existing law heavily focuses on the regulation of technology rather than the regulation of behavior. Inconsistencies significantly complicate public safety campaigns since it is difficult to convey those different types of e-micromobility. For example, electric personal assistive mobility devices, such as Segways and e-scooters, may be ridden on sidewalks but e-bikes may not. Current statute also creates speed restriction on top of age restrictions, which complicate enforcement.

Solution

The E-RIDES bill (HB 3626), informed by the Interim Electric Micromobility Work Group, creates a broad definition of “Powered Micromobility devices” which captures new devices such as Segways, e-scooters and others. It simplifies age requirements to 12+ and 16+ age standards for such devices, and removes the complicating speed restrictions. The bill directs the Oregon Department of Transportation to educate the public on these new laws, and provides \$250,000 from the General Fund to conduct the public education campaign.

Supporters