

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 2753
Version: As introduced

DATE: March 13, 2012

Authors: Hornstein

Subject: Electric-assisted bicycles

Analyst: Matt Burress

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

Overview

This bill amends regulations for electric-assisted bicycles ("e-bikes"), to classify them as bicycles (instead of a subset of "motorized bicycles," or mopeds) with respect to traffic regulations, riding rules, and equipment requirements.

- 1** **Bicycle.** Amends the definition of a bicycle in the chapter on traffic regulations to include electric-assisted bicycles. This, in conjunction with conforming changes, has the effect of modifying traffic and equipment regulation of electric-assisted bicycles to be in a manner similar to pedal-operated bicycles.
- 2** **Motorized bicycle.** Makes a conforming change to amend the definition of motorized bicycles in the chapter on traffic regulations so that it excludes electric-assisted bicycles.
- 3** **Bicycle equipment.** Narrows and clarifies a requirement on stopping, balancing, and restarting a bicycle so that it only applies to two-wheeled bikes.
- 4** **Safety equipment; parking.** Eliminates a provision requiring electric-assisted bicycle operators under age 18 to wear a certified motorcycle or bicycle helmet.
- 5** **Other operation requirements and prohibitions.** Eliminates regulations specific to electric-assisted bicycles from a provision governing mopeds, which are made obsolete by other changes in the bill.