

Subject Electric-assisted bicycle regulations

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Overview

This bill revises various aspects of electric-assisted bicycle (e-bike) regulations, including to modify e-bike classifications and operating rules, clarify vehicle definitions, and set equipment requirements. Most of the changes are effective August 1, 2021.

Summary

Section	Description
1	Off-highway motorcycle. Establishes that electric-assisted bicycles are not included in the definition of “off-highway motorcycle” in the chapter of state statutes governing Department of Natural Resources regulation of vehicles operated off-road.
2	Off-road vehicle. Establishes that electric-assisted bicycles are not included in the definition of “off-road vehicle” in the chapter of state statutes governing Department of Natural Resources regulation of vehicles operated off-road.
3	All-terrain vehicle. Establishes that electric-assisted bicycles are not included in the definition of “all-terrain vehicle” in the chapter of state statutes governing Department of Natural Resources regulation of vehicles operated off-road.
4	Motor vehicle. Clarifies that electric-assisted bicycles are not included in the definition of “motor vehicle” in the chapter of state statutes governing motor vehicle registration. Makes technical changes, to centralize a list of excluded vehicle types.

Section	Description
5	Class 1 electric-assisted bicycle. Creates a classification of electric-assisted bicycle, “class 1,” for e-bikes with a motor that only assists when the rider is pedaling and does not assist at speeds of 20 m.p.h. or higher.
6	Class 2 electric-assisted bicycle. Creates a classification of electric-assisted bicycle, “class 2,” for e-bikes with a motor that can assist when the rider is not pedaling and does not assist at speeds of 20 m.p.h. or higher.
7	Class 3 electric-assisted bicycle. Creates a classification of electric-assisted bicycle, “class 3,” for e-bikes with a motor that only assists when the rider is pedaling and does not assist at speeds of 28 m.p.h. or higher.
8	Electric-assisted bicycle. Revises the definition of electric-assisted bicycle, to reduce the maximum power capability of the motor (from 1,000 to 750 watts); require that the device fits the class 1, 2, or 3 category; and no longer reference federal regulations for motor vehicles (regulations for consumer products continue to apply).
9	Motor vehicle. Clarifies that electric-assisted bicycles are not included in the definition of “motor vehicle” in the chapter of state statutes governing traffic regulation.
10	Riding rules. Removes a provision permitting e-bike operation on roads and trails, which is replaced by similar authorization in a separate subdivision (see the next section).
11	Electric-assisted bicycle; riding rules. Establishes revised operating rules specifically for electric-assisted bicycles, including to (1) generally allow operation on roads and trails where nonmotorized bicycles are permitted, and (2) provide for restriction or regulation by state and local authorities under some circumstances.
12	Electric-assisted bicycle; equipment. Sets equipment requirements on electric-assisted bikes. This includes requiring: (1) e-bike labeling by the manufacturer (effective January 1, 2022); (2) updated labeling by a person who modifies the e-bike motor capabilities; (3) that the motor disengages when braking; and (4) that a class 3 e-bike has a speedometer.



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