

6316

Sponsor(s): Senators Kastama, Horn, Prentice, Johnson, Eide, Finkbeiner, McCaslin, McDonald, Swecker, Jacobsen, Fairley, Oke, Costa, Thibaudeau, Morton and Benton

Brief Description: Regulating electric personal assistive mobility devices.

**SB 6316.E - DIGEST**

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Provides that no driver's license is required to operate an electric personal assistive mobility device.

Provides that a person operating an electric personal assistive mobility device (EPAMD) shall obey all speed limits and shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and human-powered devices at all times. An operator must also give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian. Except for the limitations of this provision, persons operating an EPAMD have all the rights and duties of a pedestrian.

Provides that the use of an EPAMD may be regulated in the following circumstances: (1) A municipality and the department of transportation may prohibit the operation of an EPAMD on public highways within their respective jurisdictions where the speed limit is greater than twenty-five miles per hour;

(2) A municipality may restrict the speed of an EPAMD in locations with congested pedestrian or nonmotorized traffic and where there is significant speed differential between pedestrians or nonmotorized traffic and EPAMD operators.

Provides that a state agency or local government may regulate the operation of an EPAMD within the boundaries of any area used for recreation, open space, habitat, trails, or conservation purposes.

Provides that the legislature shall review the provisions of this act and make any necessary changes by July 1, 2005.