
Transportation Committee

HB 2404

Brief Description: Expanding the definition of an electric personal assistive mobility device.

Sponsors: Representatives Vick, Riccelli, Bergquist, Manweller, Hayes and Orcutt.

<p>Brief Summary of Bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expands the definition of an electric personal assistive mobility device to include certain single-wheeled, self-balancing devices.

Hearing Date: 1/27/14

Staff: Andrew Russell (786-7143).

Background:

An electric personal assistive mobility device (EPAMD) is defined as a self-balancing device, with two wheels not in tandem, which is designed to transport one person by electric power. The power of an EPAMD is limited to 750 watts; and the maximum speed is limited to 20 miles per hour. The EPAMDs are not motor vehicles, and they are excluded from the definition of a motorcycle.

A driver's license is not required to operate an EPAMD. Additionally, an EPAMD may not be operated on a fully controlled limited access highway; however, they may be operated on a sidewalk. Finally, the user of an EPAMD is classified as a "vulnerable user of a public way."

Summary of Bill:

The definition of an electric personal assistive mobility device is expanded to include a self-balancing device with one wheel that is designed to transport one person. The power of such devices is limited to 2,000 watts, and their maximum speed is limited to 20 miles per hour.

Appropriation: None.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.