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HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
Wednesday, September 4, 2024
Testimony in Support of Resolution 199
Urging the Hawaii Legislature

Update and clarify rules relating to electric bicycles and electric dirt bike motorcycles

Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Honolulu City Council,

My name is Eduardo Hernandez, and I am the Advocacy Director for the Hawai'i Bicycling League (HBL). We are a non-profit organization founded in 1975 with the mission of enabling more people to ride bicycles for health, recreation, and transportation. We strive to create communities across our islands that have safe, accessible, and inclusive environments for people to bike, walk, and roll.

Hawai'i Bicycling League supports Resolution 199, which urges the Hawai'i State Legislature to update and clarify laws relating to electric bicycles and electric dirt bike motorcycles. These updates and clarification are needed in Honolulu and across the state.

Electric bicycles serve to reduce the costs of living for Honolulu residents, while also working towards local and statewide climate and sustainability goals. These devices can reduce the need to own a vehicle, often allowing households to eliminate a vehicle and save upwards of \$10,000 per year. They can also reduce the number of vehicles being used for short trips, therefore reducing parking demand and vehicle traffic.

This resolution is based on standards that have been adopted across the nation. As e-bikes continue to expand in popularity, save money for households and deliver cleaner transportation options, it is important that our laws keep up with clear classification designations, definitions of words and best usage practices.

We applaud the introduction of this resolution by Council Member Okimoto and the work of the Council to help create a safer environment and make affordable and reliable transportation options available for a broader audience. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony. Please support **Resolution 199**.

Ride Aloha,

Eduardo Hernandez
Advocacy Director