


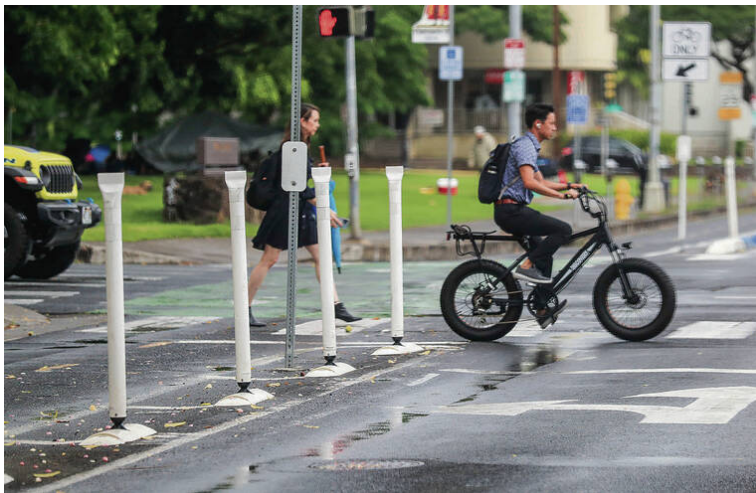
EDITORIAL

LETTERS

 Add as a preferred
source on Google

Letter: E-bike consensus, input needed, not blanket ban

Jan. 5, 2026



JAMM AQUINO/JAQUINO@STARADVERTISER.COM

Electric bikes have become a wildly popular form of transportation, but have also led to accidents and

concerns about roadway safety. An e-bike user is seen traveling along Ward Avenue on Aug. 30, 2024.

The Hawaii Department of Education recently announced new regulations governing e-bikes on all department campuses, effective immediately. Prohibiting e-bikes on elementary/middle/intermediate school campuses seems more a rushed reaction, than an effective policy.

It was announced without public input, nor due consideration for the importance of affordable, sustainable transportation options for Hawaii families.

This contrasts with robust debate and many hours of testimony heard during the 2025 Legislature, where more than a dozen bills were introduced to regulate e-bikes. The Hawai'i Bicycling League worked with allies including the Honolulu Police Department, public health advocates, educators, transportation stakeholders and lawmakers to pass comprehensive legislation to regulate e-bikes and micromobility devices.

This public consensus recognized that e-bikes shall be classified in three distinct classifications, and age restrictions were removed for class 1 and 2 devices, which cannot exceed 20 mph. Rather than blanket bans on devices, safer shared routes to school will come from behavior change, no

matter if you walk, bike, roll or drive.

Eduardo Hernandez

Hawai'i Bicycling League advocacy director

**Don't miss out
on what's
happening!**

Stay in touch with
breaking news, as it
happens,
conveniently in your
email inbox. It's
FREE!

Ente

Sign Up

By clicking to sign up, you agree to Star-Advertiser's and
Google's [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#). This
form is protected by reCAPTCHA.

EXPRESS YOURSELF

*The Honolulu Star-Advertiser welcomes all
opinions. Want your voice to be heard?*

Submit a letter to the editor.

>> Write us: *We welcome letters up to 150
words, and guest columns of 500-600
words. We reserve the right to edit for clarity
and length. Include your name, address and
daytime phone number.*

>> Mail: *Letters to the Editor, Honolulu Star-
Advertiser 7 Waterfront Plaza, 500 Ala
Moana, Suite #7-500 Honolulu, HI 96813*

>> Contact: *529-4831 (phone),
letters@staradvertiser.com,*


[Click here](#) to view more Letters to the Editor. Or submit a letter below.

SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

* Required field


<input type="text" value="First Name*"/>	<input type="text" value="Last Name*"/>
<input type="text" value="Email*"/>	<input type="text" value="Address*"/>
<input type="text" value="City*"/>	<input type="text" value="State*"/>
<input type="text" value="Zip*"/>	<input type="text" value="Home Phone"/>
<input type="text" value="Daytime Phone*"/>	

Dear Editor,



I'm not a robot

reCAPTCHA is changing its terms of service.
[Take action.](#)



reCAPTCHA

[Privacy](#) - [Terms](#)

Submit Letter

By participating in online discussions you acknowledge that you have agreed to the [Terms of Service](#). An insightful discussion of ideas and viewpoints is encouraged, but comments must be civil and in good taste, with no personal attacks. If your comments are inappropriate, you may be banned from posting. Report comments if you believe they do not follow our [guidelines](#).

Having trouble with comments? [Learn more here](#).

Please log in to comment

Comments

All Comments (8)



Shoeter

1 day ago

"...but have also led to accidents..."

No such thing as an accident. The injuries and deaths associated with e-bikes are due to careless, lazy, sloppy behavior, via a series of bad decisions, resulting in a motor vehicle collision.

Every...single...time.



1



Report

wiliki

1 day ago

No action will take place until someone gets killed... it's mostly political. Then you'll see a ban in place.






Report

RussellH

1 day ago

The problem is how does the school distinguish between a legal e-bike and an illegal/not-age




appropriate/modified e-bike? Especially when they're parked. A blanket ban is easier to enforce.

 3  Report 

bmdd

1 day ago




You need to be 15 years old to legally ride an e-bike so prohibiting them on elementary/middle/intermediate school campuses is an effective policy.

 3  Report 

bikemom

1 day ago




Teachers and other staff are more than 15 years old and should have the option to use e-bikes.

 1  Report 

wiliki

1 day ago

"Teachers and other staff" are adults.

  Report 

bikemom

1 day ago

Exactly, and they should have the option of riding e-bikes on campus.

