

*24SEP 4 AM 8:36 CITY CLERK

TESTIMONY OF
LARRY S VERAY

TO THE
CITY COUNCIL
CITY & COUNTY HONOLULU

IN STRONG SUPPORT OF RESOLUTION 24-199

RELATED TO ELECTRIC BICYCLES

September 3, 2024

Aloha, Chairman Tommy Waters and all City Council members. I am Larry Veray, Chairman for the Pearl City Neighborhood Board No. 21. I am submitting this testimony as an individual. I am also President of Waiau Gardens Kai-B AOA and electric bicycles have been a major public safety issue for Pearl City and my homeowner's association. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of Resolution 24-199. I believe hundreds of users of electric bicycles are helping the city reduce the number of cars and trucks on our city streets as a great cost-effective option to transit to work and play.

I totally agree with the content in this resolution 24-199. I have personally witnessed numerous dangerous activities of adults and children failing to observe city rules of the road while riding e-bikes and dirt bikes on sidewalks, on roadways between waiting vehicles at stop lights, through parks and over private property where these bikes are not allowed.

Hawai'i needs to adopt the 3-class system, like 41 other states, to identify the differences between bicycles equipped with motors and pedals with maximum speed 20 mph, bicycles equipped with motors and without pedals with maximum speed of 20 mph and lastly bicycles with pedals and maximum speed 28 mph.

The Hawai'i State Legislature needs to update and clarify laws relating to electric bicycles and electric dirt bikes by incorporating the 3-class system, reflect existing technology, registration and license requirements, require helmets and age limits and increase penalties for violations to the law.

I most strongly urge you to pass Resolution 24-199 to improve safety and accountability for users of electric bicycles. The residents in Pearl City need this resolution approved to potentially reduce the amount of electric bicycle accidents and fatalities. Mahalo!

Larry S. Veray

DEPT. COM. 647

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