



June 24, 2024

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
California Governor
1021 O Street, Room 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: ASSEMBLY BILL 1774 (DIXON) – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of The City of Carlsbad, we respectfully request your signature on Assembly Bill (AB) 1774, which would prohibit the sale of a product or device that would modify the speed ability of an electric bicycle.

Current law defines three classes of electric bicycles (E-Bike) which have a maximum assisted speed of 20 miles per hour on Class 1 and 2 electric bikes and 28 miles per hour on Class 3 electric bikes. E-bikes are exempt from driver's licenses and license plate requirements. Anything above 28 miles per hour no longer classifies as an E-Bike, making it illegal to operate on roadways. However, despite these regulations, E-Bike modification products that increase maximum speed capabilities are all too easy to purchase and install.

These modification devices pose a public safety concern within our community. It takes longer to brake on an E-Bike than a standard bicycle due to the weight and speed, and the modification of an E-Bike creates massive safety concerns for vehicles, bicyclists, and pedestrians. Children who utilize E-bikes as part of their school commutes each day should not have access to devices that are heavy and transcend allowable speed capabilities under current law – particularly in cases where they do not have the training to understand the rules of the road. AB 1774 is a common-sense bill that would provide additional prevention and enforcement capabilities to prohibit the sale of E-bike speed modification kits.

AB 1774 is necessary to allow local governments to maintain safety where electric bikes are used. For these reasons, we are pleased to support AB 1774 and respectfully request your signature on the measure. Should you have any questions, please contact our legislative advocate Sharon Gonsalves with Renne Public Policy Group at 916-974-9270.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Blackburn'.

Keith Blackburn
Mayor

CC: The Honorable Senator Catherine Blakespear
Myles White, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Governor Gavin Newsom's Office of Legislative Affairs

City of Carlsbad City Council

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