

AB 2284 - Vehicles: Electric Bicycles

SUMMARY

AB 2284 requires the Attorney General, in partnership with biking nonprofit groups, to maintain and publish an online list of e-bike products that do not comply with the state's labeling or advertising standards.

EXISTING LAW

Under existing law, Vehicle Code 312.5, electric bicycles are defined as a "bicycle equipped with fully operable pedals and an electric motor that does not exceed 750 watts of power", and currently fall into three categories depending on the model's top speed and design features.

Vehicle Code 312.5 also prohibits certain devices from being advertised, sold, offered for sale or labeled as an electric bicycle. For example, a vehicle with two or three wheels that is powered by an electric motor and is intended by the manufacturer to be modifiable to exceed 20 miles per hour or 750 watts of power, a vehicle that is modified to exceed 20 miles or 750 watts, or a vehicle that is modified to have its operable pedals removed, are all currently prohibited.

ISSUE

Some bad faith companies are engaging in false marketing by advertising high-powered electric vehicles, such as mopeds, motorcycles, and other devices that exceed speed or power thresholds, as "electric bicycles". These products do not meet the legal definition of an e-bike, yet are being falsely labeled and sold as such. This deceptive practice misleads consumers, exposes them to unanticipated risks and undermines public trust. Compounding this issue, we have heard that law enforcement can have difficulty enforcing the law because different classes have different regulations and there is a lack of labelling requirements on e-bikes.

SOLUTION

To address this issue and improve rider safety, AB 2284 would require the Attorney General, in partnership with biking nonprofit groups, to compile a list of electric two-wheeled devices that do not comply with the definition of any single class of electric bicycles under Section 312.5 and devices that are labeled, advertised or commonly perceived by riders or peace officers as electric bicycles or electric bicycle products.

AB 2284 is a common-sense measure that will improve rider safety by easily allowing consumers to identify e-bike products that do not meet California standards or requirements. Furthermore, this measure will provide a useful resource for both law enforcement and school districts when identifying non-compliant or potentially dangerous devices.

SIMILAR LEGISLATION

SB 586 (Jones, 2025) - Off-highway electric motorcycles - Chaptered

AB 875 (Muratsuchi, 2025) - Vehicle removal - Chaptered

AB 965 (Dixon, 2025) - Vehicles: electric bicycles - Chaptered

SB 1271 (Min, 2024) - Electric bicycles - Chaptered

SUPPORT

Streets For All (Sponsor)
City of Huntington Beach

OPPOSITION

None on File

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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