

ORDINANCE NO. _____

BILL NO. 16 (2026)

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 10.52,
MAUI COUNTY CODE, BY ADDING A NEW SECTION
REGULATING LOW-SPEED ELECTRIC BICYCLES

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI:

SECTION 1. This Ordinance's purpose is to establish regulations for the safe operation of low-speed electric bicycles, with particular focus on protecting minors and promoting responsible use. It seeks to accomplish this by:

- **Mandating helmet use for underage riders:** Requiring individuals under 18 to wear a helmet that meets specific safety and design standards to reduce head trauma and injuries.
- **Defining safe riding conduct:** Prohibiting unsafe maneuvers, such as standing on the seat or intentionally lifting wheels from the ground, which endanger the operator and others.
- **Restricting exhibition driving:** Making it unlawful to operate a low-speed electric bicycle in an exhibition or unsafe manner on public rights-of-way, except for legally permitted events.

SECTION 2. Chapter 10.52, Maui County Code is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

“10.52.125 Riding on low-speed electric bicycles. A. A person under 18 years of age may not operate a low-speed electric bicycle unless that person is wearing a helmet that:

1. Is properly fitted and fastened and specifically designed for riding a bicycle;
2. Is equipped with a chin strap; and
3. Meets the helmet testing and design requirements of section 291C-150(a), Hawai‘i Revised Statutes.

B. A low-speed electric bicycle may be operated only with all wheels on the ground at all times, with the operator facing forward and seated in a normal riding position; except that it is not a violation of this subsection if the wheels lose contact with the ground briefly because of the road surface conditions or other circumstances beyond the operator's control.

C. It is unlawful for an individual to operate a low-speed electric bicycle:

1. In an unsafe manner or engage in exhibition driving, such as wheelies or stunts, on any public street, highway, alley, path, trail, or other public right-of-way; except this subsection does not apply to an individual engaging in exhibition riding as part of a parade, tournament, or other activity permitted by law;

2. Standing or kneeling on the bicycle seat, riding on the handlebars, or engaging in any other non-standing or non-standard riding position; and

3. While engaging in any other maneuver that endangers the operator, passenger, or the general public, or that demonstrates reckless or negligent operation of the bicycle.”

SECTION 3. New material is underscored. In printing this bill, the County Clerk need not include the underscoring.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance takes effect on approval.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:



Kristie M. Wrigglesworth
Department of the Corporation Counsel
County of Maui
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INTRODUCED BY:

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