

JOHNNY RAY SALLING  
*Legislative District 6*  
Baltimore County

Budget and Taxation Committee

Public Safety, Transportation,  
and Environment Subcommittee



James Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street, Room 321  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3587 • 301-858-3587  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3587  
JohnnyRay.Salling@senate.state.md.us

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Judicial Proceedings Committee  
Chair Will Smith  
Vice Chair Jeff Waldstreicher  
2 East Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Senate Bill 14 will require a license and insurance for electric bikes in the state of Maryland. These requirements will ensure that electric bikes are treated more similarly to other motorized vehicles already on the road. We have submitted an amendment to remove the registration requirement from the bill.

Requiring electric bicycles to be licensed and insured will allow the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration to maintain a record of electric bicycle ownership in the event of theft or accidents. Having a record of these vehicles will make it easier for the state and law enforcement to identify owners of electric bikes.

We have seen a significant increase in incidents involving electric bikes nationwide. This bill aims to curb this trend by requiring insurance coverage. This will encourage safety and accountability as electric bikes become more prominent on our roads.

Unfortunately, I was recently involved in an accident with an electric bike. Due to current law, which does not require insurance to operate electric bikes, the burden was on me to cover the \$9,000 in damage that was done to my car. As you can see from the photos of my accident, electric bikes are capable of doing extensive damage to automobiles.

This bill is not meant to discourage people from using their preferred method of transportation, but rather to make our roads safer for everyone by increasing responsibility and accountability. I want to ensure that what happened to me, does not happen to you or a member of your family. It is important that everyone using our roads, including electric bike riders, automobile drivers, and pedestrians, are protected.

I urge my colleagues for your support and a favorable committee report. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Senator Johnny Ray Salling

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Johnny Ray Salling".