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Judicial Proceedings Committee
Executive Nominations Committee

Senate Chair
Joint Committee on
Children, Youth, and Families

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony of Senator Mary-Dulany James
In Support of Senate Bill 743 - Workgroup to Study State Laws on
Electric Bicycles - Establishment
March 10, 2026

Mr. Chairman, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Senate Bill 743 is a straightforward bill aimed at gathering stakeholders to examine issues relating to electric bicycles and other micro-mobility devices and make recommendations for revisions to state law that will improve public safety. During the 2025 legislative interim, Bel Air Police Chief Charles Moore shared with the Harford County Delegation his concerns about the growing number of incidents the Bel Air Police are seeing involving electric bicycles (e-bikes). There have been several encounters in the city with teenagers riding e-bikes recklessly through streets and pedestrian areas, putting themselves and those around them at risk.

This is not only a problem in Bel Air. Jurisdictions throughout the country are looking at taking action to address the safety concerns related to the use of e-bikes and other electric micromobility devices. A study out of Columbia University found that between 2019 and 2022, the rate of e-bike injuries increased 293 percent.¹ A report from the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission documented 53 e-bike related deaths in 2022 and 76 in 2023, compared to only 6 in 2018.² There was even a situation in New Jersey last year where a 13-year-old was killed while riding his e-bike on a public road.³

¹ [E-Bike, Powered Scooter Injuries Spike | Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health](#)

² [Micromobility Products-Related Deaths Injuries and Hazard Patterns 2017-2021](#)

³ [Teen on e-bike dies after being hit by a landscaping truck, N.J. officials say - nj.com](#)

In New Jersey, the legislature responded to that tragedy by passing new regulations on e-bikes that proved to be controversial.⁴ Senate Bill 743 aims to take a more measured and collaborative approach.

The bill before the committee today simply creates a workgroup with relevant stakeholders to study our current laws in the light of these academic studies to see if we can find a better statutory framework to promote public safety. Since the current e-bike statute was set up in 2019, e-bikes have grown in popularity, and we have substantially more information about how they are used in practice. It is time for Maryland to revisit this statute and keep the conversation going on how to keep our public roadways safe for everyone.

Thank you for your consideration and I ask for a favorable report on Senate Bill 743.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary-Dulany James". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Senator Mary-Dulany James

Harford County, Maryland

⁴ [Gov. Phil Murphy signs e-bike bill criticized by bike advocates • New Jersey Monitor](#)