

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitter Comments:

I am writing to express my growing concerns regarding the regulation and governance of electric motorbikes in comparison to their petrol-fueled counterparts. Having ridden motorbikes for over fifty years, I have witnessed the evolution of road safety measures. However, it seems that electric motorbikes are not governed by the same essential road rules that protect riders and the public. As it stands, the absence of registration for electric bikes makes it nearly impossible to track riders who engage in reckless behavior. Furthermore, the lack of licensing and mandated training poses significant safety risks, especially with riders as young as seven years old permitted to ride.

Without insurance, any potential damages to persons or property are not covered, leading to problematic scenarios for all involved. Additionally, I have observed alarming practices where multiple riders, including young children in handlebar baskets, can be seen disregarding safety norms entirely. The current regulations appear inconsistent, particularly when considering that some of these electric bikes are as substantial as traditional motorbikes and equipped with similar features, yet they are granted privileges that traditional motorbike riders must adhere to stringently. Isn't it reasonable to advocate for equal treatment under the law where safety is concerned? The negligence surrounding electric bike regulation reminds me of the initial indifference toward vaping, which was brushed aside until it became a significant public health issue. We must act proactively to prevent the inevitable rise in accidents and injuries associated with irresponsibly governed electric motorbikes. I urge you and your colleagues to consider these pressing issues and advocate for changes that promote public safety and equitable regulations for all motorbike users. Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. Kind Regards, [REDACTED]