

Representative Ashley Carrick

Alaska State Legislature

In Juneau

Alaska State Capitol

Juneau, AK 99801

Phone: (907) 465-4976

Toll Free: (866) 465-4976



In Fairbanks

1292 Sadler Way Ste. 308

Fairbanks, AK 99701

Phone: (907) 452-6084

House District 35 – West Fairbanks

House Bill 8 – Version A Sponsor Statement

“An Act relating to electric-assisted bicycles.”

Electric-assisted bicycles are an emerging and exciting source of exercise, transportation, and recreation for Alaskans. Currently Alaska does not have any laws pertaining to electric assisted bicycles, nor related references to operating licenses, safety requirements, local traffic laws, or related definitions. This is problematic since electric-assisted bicycles do not currently fit into existing definitions of any other type of vehicle. A new definition in statute is needed to address electric-assisted bicycles that can resolve this confusion for electric-assisted bicycle owners and retailers.

Forty-six other states define electric bicycles and thirty-nine of those states classify e-bikes with a three-tiered industry standard definition. Here in Alaska, the Municipality of Anchorage defined low-speed electric bicycles in 2016. Adding this definition to statute will regulate electric-assisted bicycles as a bicycle, and that any current statute related to bicycles includes electric assisted-bicycles. Additionally, e-bikes are not subject to the registration, licensing or insurance requirements that apply to motor vehicles, and they may be operated where regulations currently allow bicycles to be operated.

Additionally, this legislation has passed the House in the two preceding legislatures. Please join me in supporting House Bill 8 to bring our statutes up to date so all Alaskans can enjoy and use electric-assisted bicycles.

My staff on this legislation is Stuart Relay. He can be reached at 907-465-6879 or at stuart.relay@akleg.gov