

House Research Act Summary

CHAPTER: 285

SESSION: 2002 Regular Session

TOPIC: Regulation of electric personal assistive mobility devices

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Analyst: John Williams, 651-296-5045

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- 1 Registration.** Exempts electric personal assistive mobility devices from the definition of "motor vehicle" for purposes of licensing and registration.
- 2 Traffic law definition.** Exempts electric personal assistive mobility devices from the definition of "motor vehicle" in traffic law.
- 3 Definition.** Defines an "electric personal assistive mobility device" as a self-balancing device with two non-tandem wheels, designed to transport one person and operated by an electrical system that limits maximum speed to 15 m.p.h.
- 4 Operation of electric personal assistive mobility devices.** Regulates operation of electric personal assistive mobility devices.
 - Subdivision 1. Rights and responsibilities of pedestrians.** Gives operators of electric personal assistive mobility devices the same rights and responsibilities as pedestrians, except where otherwise provided.
 - Subd. 2. Operation.** Allows operation on a bicycle path. Prohibits operation at a speed that is not reasonable and prudent under the conditions. Requires due care in operation. Allows operation on roadways only with making a direct crossing, where no sidewalk is available or where the sidewalk is obstructed, when directed by peace officer or traffic sign or signal, or to obtain direct access to a motor vehicle. Prohibits operation on any roadway with a speed limit of more than 35 m.p.h. except to cross in a crosswalk. Requires operators to yield to pedestrians at all times. Requires operators on bicycle paths to yield to bicycles at all times. Prohibits passengers.
 - Subd. 3. Reflectors.** Requires electric personal assistive mobility devices to have reflectorized material on the front, back, and wheels.
 - Subd. 4. Local regulation.** Prohibits local regulation more stringent than state regulation, except that local governments may allow and regulate electric personal assistive mobility devices on roadways with a speed limit of more than 35 m.p.h.
- 5 Driver's license.** Exempts electric personal assistive mobility device from the definition of "motor

vehicle" in driver's license law.