



CITY OF LAGUNA NIGUEL

30111 Crown Valley Parkway, Laguna Niguel, California 92677
Phone: (949) 362-4300 Fax: (949) 362-4352

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Kelly Jennings
Mayor Pro Tem Stephanie Oddo
Council Member Ray Gennawey
Council Member Gene Johns
Council Member Stephanie Winstead

June 18, 2024

The Honorable Freddie Rodriguez
Chair, Assembly Committee on Emergency Management
1020 N Street, Room 360B
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: SB 1271 (Min) Electric Bicycles, Powered Mobility Devices, and Storage Batteries.
Notice of Support (As amended June 11, 2024)

Dear Assembly Member Rodriguez,

The City of Laguna Niguel is pleased to **support** SB 1271 (Min), which would require an electric bicycle, powered mobility device, or storage battery manufacturers or distributors to test said devices by an accredited testing laboratory for compliance with safety standards beginning January 1, 2026. Additionally, by January 1, 2028, this bill requires similar testing for electric bicycles available for rent and revises the definitions of class 1 and class 3 electric bicycles.

Lithium-ion batteries are the most common type of battery used in electric bicycles, powered mobility devices, and battery storage facilities. If lithium-ion batteries are manufactured without compliance with specific safety standards and/or appropriately distributed, the likelihood of the batteries causing a fire hazard exponentially increases. Within seconds, lithium-ion battery fires can emit toxic gases and cause explosions, which have historically caused injuries and deaths. They also cannot be smothered like other fires and can reignite up to twenty-one days later.

The State Fire Marshal advises the purchasing and use of battery-powered devices with a testing agency mark, showing that the product has been safely tested to prevent lithium-ion battery fires. SB 1271 would require battery powered devices to display the logo, wordmark, or name of the accredited testing laboratory to be lawfully distributed, sold, or leased. This measure ensures public safety by eliminating the opportunity for consumers to purchase and use devices with batteries that have not been tested, making battery-powered devices approved by accredited testing laboratories the standard. SB 1271 ultimately aims to promote public safety by creating standardized guidelines for device manufacturers and distributors.

For these reasons, the City of Laguna Niguel **supports** SB 1271 (Min) and encourages the Assembly Committee on Emergency Management to vote in support. Should you have any questions about our position, please contact Kevin O'Connor, Management Assistant, at koconnor@cityoflagunaniguel.org.

Sincerely,

Kelly Jennings
Kelly Jennings

Mayor