

March 29, 2019

**Oregon Progressive Party
Position on Bill at 2019
Session of Oregon Legislature:**

SB 810: Support

Dear Committee:

The Oregon Progressive Party supports this bill, which modifies the definition of "vulnerable user of a public way" to include persons operating or riding on mopeds or motorcycles.

Existing law increases penalties for careless or criminally negligent driving, if it injures or kills a "vulnerable user," currently defined as pedestrians, bicyclists, people riding animals, and a few others. This bill adds riders of mopeds and motorcycles to the list.

This added protection for moped and motorcycle riders is needed. Increased use of very small vehicles, including mopeds and motorcycles, will be necessary to combat global warming. Electric mopeds and motorcycles are over 10-fold more efficient than cars in transporting persons. They can also be designed to carry cargo and, according to DHL, Inc. are 30-fold more efficient than using diesel vehicles for urban deliveries.

Dozens of European cities are now using e-trikes (human and electric-powered tricycles) for cargo deliveries in urban areas. DHL, Inc., claims this system is 30 times more energy efficient than diesel trucks and even 16 times more efficient than electric cargo vans. DHL uses e-trikes to deliver cargo in 80 European cities and has replaced 60% of its urban vehicle routes in some of those countries.

See http://www.dhl.com/en/press/releases/releases_2017/all/express/dhl_expands_green_urban_delivery_with_city_hub_for_cargo_bicycles.html.

The e-trikes used for delivery may well be classified as mopeds in Oregon, because they may be equipped with motors having power output exceeding 1,000 watts. We should expect to encounter many of these vehicles on Oregon streets in the future.

Oregon Progressive Party

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