



TRANSPORTATION, COMMERCE AND WORKFORCE COMMITTEE

WITNESS FORM

Today's Date:

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Organization Representing:

Testifying on Bill Number:

Testimony: Verbal Written Both

Testifying As: Proponent Opponent Interested Party

Are you a registered lobbyist? YES NO

Special requests:

My Name is Tom Bennett. I am the owner of Orbit City Bikes. We have sold hundreds of electric bikes to consumers in Ohio. One of the frequent questions we get asked is about the legality of the bikes. We are able to refer our potential customers to Federal Laws, but they defer to the state as to what is allowed in some circumstances. There is no Ohio law that specifically pertains to electric bicycles. Often, state and local officials refer to laws about mopeds or other motorized vehicles, which the federal guidance disputes but still leaves the State to define.

HR 250 clarifies what an electric bike is and how it is allowed to be used. I fully support the passage of HR 250. It provides clear guidance to state and local officials and also to the public. It provides for safe bicycling without undo restrictions. Lifting the legal cloud will assure the success of my small company and many like it.

The bill itself is revenue neutral, however increased sales of electric bikes provides increased sales tax revenue for the state and local governments. Just my small company provided over \$20,000 in sales tax revenue last year. We also provide both entry level and career jobs for our employees.

Many people have been helped by electric bikes. We help those with health issues that keep them from driving to be more independent. We help those with joint pain to be mobile again. We help people lose weight and become more healthy. And we help commuters keep down congestion and pollution in our cities.

I would appreciate your support of HR 250.