

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR EDWARD M. FLYNN



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE RIDE SAFE ACT

WHEREAS, This week, Governor Healey filed *An Act to enhance the safe use of micromobility devices*, a first-in-the-national bill attempting to regulate e-bikes, mopeds, scooters, and other delivery vehicles; *and*

WHEREAS, Cities and towns including Boston have experienced a significant increase in concerns related to unsafe operation of both motorized devices and delivery vehicles, including speeding, riding on sidewalks, ignoring traffic signals, and reckless driving in densely populated neighborhoods; *and*

WHEREAS, Improving roadway safety is critical to protecting all pedestrians, including our seniors, persons with disabilities, and young families, as well as drivers, and delivery workers alike while ensuring that emerging transportation technologies operate responsibly within local communities; *and*

WHEREAS, The Act, also known as the Ride Safe Act, seeks to establish clearer accountability measures, improve enforcement mechanisms, strengthen registration and identification requirements, and promote safer operation of motorized vehicles throughout Massachusetts; *and*

WHEREAS, The Ride Safe Act would restrict “higher-speed devices” from sidewalks, bike lanes, and other “high-risk areas”, restrict modifications to make micro-mobility devices to go faster, and require the use of helmets. Lower speed e-bikes would follow bike lane rules and have helmet requirements for those under 16, while higher speed devices like mopeds would have stricter requirements like license, registration, insurance and roadway restrictions. The legislation also introduces a minimum age requirement for certain e-bikes and scooters; *and*

WHEREAS, The streets of Boston have undeniably become less safe due to mopeds frequently traveling through red lights and stop signs, operating on sidewalks, and driving the wrong way on one-way streets. Reports indicate that delivery drivers are often incentivized to prioritize speed over safety in order to secure more assignments, maintain higher ratings, and preserve their employment. This has further exacerbated the existing pedestrian safety crisis already caused by speeding vehicles. The Ride Safe Act is a critical component to address Boston’s public and pedestrian safety crisis; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council goes on record in support of the Ride Safe Act.

Filed on: May 13, 2026