88R1319 BEE-D

By:  Patterson H.B. No. 715

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the operation of electric bicycles in a state park.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Subchapter A, Chapter 13, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended by adding Section 13.024 to read as follows:

Sec. 13.024.  OPERATION OF ELECTRIC BICYCLE IN STATE PARK. (a) In this section:

(1)  "Bicycle" has the meaning assigned by Section 541.201, Transportation Code.

(2)  "Class 1 electric bicycle" and "Class 2 electric bicycle" have the meanings assigned by Section 664.001, Transportation Code.

(b)  Notwithstanding any other law and except as provided by Subsection (c), a person may operate a Class 1 or Class 2 electric bicycle in any area of a state park in which the operation of a bicycle is permitted.

(c)  The department may prohibit the operation of a Class 1 or Class 2 electric bicycle in an area of a state park described by Subsection (b) if the department determines the prohibition is necessary to protect:

(1)  public safety;

(2)  state park infrastructure; or

(3)  state fish or wildlife resources or habitat.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.