

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.