HOUSE BILL 1325

State of Washington 66th Legislature 2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Kloba, Steele, Walen, Fey, and Slatter
Read first time 01/18/19. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

- AN ACT Relating to the regulation of personal delivery devices; amending RCW 46.04.320, 46.04.670, 46.61.050, 46.61.055, 46.61.060, 46.61.235, 46.61.240, 46.61.261, 46.61.264, 46.61.269, 46.61.365, and 46.61.710; adding a new section to chapter 46.61 RCW; adding a new chapter to Title 46 RCW; and prescribing penalties.
- 6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.
- 10 (1) "Eligible entity" means a corporation, partnership, 11 association, firm, sole proprietorship, or other entity engaged in 12 business.
- 13 (2) "Hazardous material" means any substance defined, regulated, or listed as a hazardous substance, hazardous material, hazardous 15 waste, toxic waste, pollutant, contaminant, or toxic substance, or 16 identified as hazardous to human health or the environment, under 17 state or federal law or regulation, and is capable of posing an 18 unreasonable risk to health, safety, and property if transported in 19 commerce.
- 20 (3) "Personal delivery device" means an electrically powered 21 device to which all of the following apply:

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1 (a) The device is intended primarily to transport property on a 2 sidewalk or crosswalk;

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- (b) The device weighs less than one hundred twenty pounds, excluding any property being carried in the device, except that a jurisdiction that governs the right-of-way containing the sidewalk or crosswalk may allow a device to exceed this weight limit through a local permit or local ordinance;
 - (c) The device has a maximum speed of ten miles per hour; and
- 9 (d) The device is equipped with automated driving technology, 10 including software and hardware, enabling the operation of the 11 device, with the support and supervision of a remote personal 12 delivery device operator.
 - (4) (a) "Personal delivery device operator" means an employee or agent of an eligible entity who exercises active physical control over, or monitoring of, the navigation and operation of a personal delivery device.
 - (b) "Personal delivery device operator" does not include:
- 18 (i) With respect to a delivery or other service rendered by a 19 personal delivery device, the person who requests the delivery or 20 service; or
- 21 (ii) A person who only arranges for and dispatches a personal 22 delivery device for a delivery or other service.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. An eligible entity may operate a personal delivery device on a sidewalk or crosswalk so long as all of the following requirements are met:
 - (1) The personal delivery device is operated in accordance with the laws or ordinances, if any, established by the jurisdiction governing the right-of-way containing the sidewalk or crosswalk;
- 29 (2) A personal delivery device operator is actively controlling 30 or monitoring the navigation and operation of the personal delivery 31 device;
- 32 (3) The eligible entity maintains an insurance policy that 33 includes general liability coverage of not less than one hundred 34 thousand dollars for damages arising from the operation of the 35 personal delivery device by the eligible entity and any agent of the 36 eligible entity; and
- 37 (4) The personal delivery device is equipped with all of the 38 following:

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- 1 (a) A marker that clearly identifies the name and contact 2 information of the eligible entity operating the personal delivery 3 device and a unique identification number;
 - (b) A braking system that enables the personal delivery device to come to a controlled stop; and
- 6 (c) If the personal delivery device is being operated between 7 sunset and sunrise, a light on both the front and rear of the 8 personal delivery device that is visible on all sides of the personal 9 delivery device in clear weather from a distance of at least five 10 hundred feet to the front and rear of the personal delivery device 11 when directly in front of low beams of headlights on a motor vehicle.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. (1) The operation of a personal delivery device is subject to all rules of the road under chapter 46.61 RCW that apply to pedestrians, unless otherwise specified within that chapter.
- 16 (2) A personal delivery device may not be operated to transport 17 hazardous material.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A violation of this act is a traffic infraction. The traffic citation must be issued to the eligible entity that operated the personal delivery device at the time the infraction was committed.
- 22 **Sec. 5.** RCW 46.04.320 and 2010 c 217 s 1 are each amended to 23 read as follows:
- 24 (1) "Motor vehicle" means ((every)) <u>a</u> vehicle that is self-25 propelled ((and every)) <u>or a</u> vehicle that is propelled by electric 26 power obtained from overhead trolley wires $((\tau))$ but not operated upon 27 rails.
- 28 <u>(2)</u> "Motor vehicle" includes:

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- 29 <u>(a) A</u> neighborhood electric vehicle as defined in RCW 30 46.04.357((..."Motor vehicle" includes));
- 31 <u>(b) A</u> medium-speed electric vehicle as defined in RCW 46.04.295; 32 <u>and</u>
- 33 (c) A golf cart for the purposes of chapter 46.61 RCW.
- 34 (3) "Motor vehicle" excludes:
- 35 <u>(a)</u> An electric personal assistive mobility device ((is not 36 considered a motor vehicle.));
- 37 <u>(b)</u> A power wheelchair ((is not considered a motor vehicle.));

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- 1 $\underline{\text{(c)}}$ A golf cart ((is not considered a motor vehicle)), except
- 2 ((for the purposes of chapter 46.61 RCW)) as provided in subsection
- 3 (2) of this section;
- 4 (d) A moped, for the purposes of chapter 46.70 RCW; and
- 5 <u>(e) A personal delivery device as defined in section 1 of this</u> 6 <u>act</u>.
- 7 **Sec. 6.** RCW 46.04.670 and 2011 c 171 s 19 are each amended to 8 read as follows:
- 9 (1) "Vehicle" (($\frac{includes every}{includes}$)) means a device capable of being moved upon a public highway and in, upon, or by which any persons or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a public highway((τ including bicycles)).
- 13 (2) "Vehicle" ((does not include)) excludes:
- 14 <u>(a) A</u> power wheelchair((s)) or device((s)) other than <u>a</u>
 15 bicycle((s)) moved by human or animal power or used exclusively upon
 16 stationary rails or tracks((. <u>Mopeds are not considered vehicles or</u>
 17 motor vehicles));
- 18 <u>(b) A moped,</u> for the purposes of chapter 46.70 RCW((. Bicycles 19 are not considered vehicles));
- 20 (c) A bicycle, for the purposes of chapter 46.12, 46.16A, or 21 46.70 RCW, or for RCW 82.12.045(($\frac{1}{2}$));
- 22 (d) An electric personal assistive mobility device((s are not considered vehicles or motor vehicles)), for the purposes of chapter 46.12, 46.16A, 46.29, 46.37, or 46.70 RCW((\div));
- 25 <u>(e)</u> A golf cart ((is not considered a vehicle)), except for the purposes of chapter 46.61 RCW; and
- 27 <u>(f) A personal delivery device as defined in section 1 of this</u> 28 <u>act, except for the purposes of chapter 46.61 RCW</u>.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. A new section is added to chapter 46.61 RCW to read as follows:
- For the purposes of this chapter, "personal delivery device" has the same meaning as in section 1 of this act.
- 33 **Sec. 8.** RCW 46.61.050 and 1975 c 62 s 18 are each amended to 34 read as follows:
- 35 (1) The driver of any vehicle, every bicyclist, and every 36 pedestrian shall obey, and the operation of every personal delivery 37 device shall follow, the instructions of any official traffic control

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device applicable thereto placed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, unless otherwise directed by a traffic or police officer, subject to the exception granted the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle in this chapter.

- (2) No provision of this chapter for which official traffic control devices are required shall be enforced against an alleged violator if at the time and place of the alleged violation an official device is not in proper position and sufficiently legible or visible to be seen by an ordinarily observant person. Whenever a particular section does not state that official traffic control devices are required, such section shall be effective even though no devices are erected or in place.
- (3) Whenever official traffic control devices are placed in position approximately conforming to the requirements of this chapter, such devices shall be presumed to have been so placed by the official act or direction of lawful authority, unless the contrary shall be established by competent evidence.
- (4) Any official traffic control device placed pursuant to the provisions of this chapter and purporting to conform to the lawful requirements pertaining to such devices shall be presumed to comply with the requirements of this chapter, unless the contrary shall be established by competent evidence.
- **Sec. 9.** RCW 46.61.055 and 1993 c 153 s 2 are each amended to 24 read as follows:

Whenever traffic is controlled by traffic control signals exhibiting different colored lights, or colored lighted arrows, successively one at a time or in combination, only the colors green, red and yellow shall be used, except for special pedestrian signals carrying a word or legend, and said lights shall indicate and apply to drivers of vehicles ((and)), pedestrians as follows, and personal delivery devices as follows:

(1) Green indication

(a) Vehicle operators facing a circular green signal may proceed straight through or turn right or left unless a sign at such place prohibits either such turn. Vehicle operators turning right or left shall stop to allow other vehicles lawfully within the intersection control area to complete their movements. Vehicle operators turning right or left shall also stop for pedestrians who or personal

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<u>delivery devices that</u> are lawfully within the intersection control area as required by RCW 46.61.235(1).

- (b) Vehicle operators facing a green arrow signal, shown alone or in combination with another indication, may enter the intersection control area only to make the movement indicated by such arrow, or such other movement as is permitted by other indications shown at the same time. Vehicle operators shall stop to allow other vehicles lawfully within the intersection control area to complete their movements. Vehicle operators shall also stop for pedestrians who or personal delivery devices that are lawfully within the intersection control area as required by RCW 46.61.235(1).
- (c) Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian control signal, as provided in RCW 46.61.060 as now or hereafter amended, pedestrians or personal delivery devices facing any green signal, except when the sole green signal is a turn arrow, may proceed across the roadway within any marked or unmarked crosswalk.
 - (2) Steady yellow indication

- (a) Vehicle operators facing a steady circular yellow or yellow arrow signal are thereby warned that the related green movement is being terminated or that a red indication will be exhibited immediately thereafter when vehicular traffic shall not enter the intersection. Vehicle operators shall stop for pedestrians who or personal delivery devices that are lawfully within the intersection control area as required by RCW 46.61.235(1).
- (b) Pedestrians or personal delivery devices facing a steady circular yellow or yellow arrow signal, unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian control signal as provided in RCW 46.61.060 shall not enter the roadway.
 - (3) Steady red indication
- (a) Vehicle operators facing a steady circular red signal alone shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or, if none, then before entering the intersection control area and shall remain standing until an indication to proceed is shown. However, the vehicle operators facing a steady circular red signal may, after stopping proceed to make a right turn from a one-way or two-way street into a two-way street or into a one-way street carrying traffic in the direction of the right turn; or a left turn from a one-way or two-way street into a one-way street carrying traffic in the direction of the left turn; unless a sign posted by competent

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authority prohibits such movement. Vehicle operators planning to make such turns shall remain stopped to allow other vehicles lawfully within or approaching the intersection control area to complete their movements. Vehicle operators planning to make such turns shall also remain stopped for pedestrians who or personal delivery devices that are lawfully within the intersection control area as required by RCW 46.61.235(1).

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- (b) Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian control signal as provided in RCW 46.61.060 as now or hereafter amended, pedestrians or personal delivery devices facing a steady circular red signal alone shall not enter the roadway.
- (c) Vehicle operators facing a steady red arrow indication may not enter the intersection control area to make the movement indicated by such arrow, and unless entering the intersection control area to make such other movement as is permitted by other indications shown at the same time, shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before entering a crosswalk on the near side of the intersection control area, or if none, then before entering the intersection control area and shall remain standing until an indication to make the movement indicated by such arrow is shown. However, the vehicle operators facing a steady red arrow indication may, after stopping proceed to make a right turn from a one-way or two-way street into a two-way street or into a one-way street carrying traffic in the direction of the right turn; or a left turn from a one-way street or two-way street into a one-way street carrying traffic in the direction of the left turn; unless a sign posted by competent authority prohibits such movement. Vehicle operators planning to make such turns shall remain stopped to allow other vehicles lawfully within or approaching the intersection control area to complete their movements. Vehicle operators planning to make such turns shall also remain stopped for pedestrians who or personal delivery devices that are lawfully within the intersection control area as required by RCW 46.61.235(1).
 - (d) Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian signal, pedestrians or personal delivery devices facing a steady red arrow signal indication shall not enter the roadway.
 - (4) If an official traffic control signal is erected and maintained at a place other than an intersection, the provisions of this section shall be applicable except as to those provisions which by their nature can have no application. Any stop required shall be

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- made at a sign or marking on the pavement indicating where the stop
- 2 shall be made, but in the absence of any such sign or marking the
- 3 stop shall be made at the signal.

Sec. 10. RCW 46.61.060 and 1993 c 153 s 3 are each amended to read as follows:

Whenever pedestrian control signals exhibiting the words "Walk" or the walking person symbol or "Don't Walk" or the hand symbol are operating, the signals shall indicate as follows:

- (1) WALK or walking person symbol—Pedestrians or personal delivery devices facing such signal may cross the roadway in the direction of the signal. Vehicle operators shall stop for pedestrians who or personal delivery devices that are lawfully moving within the intersection control area on such signal as required by RCW 46.61.235(1).
- (2) Steady or flashing DON'T WALK or hand symbol—Pedestrians or personal delivery devices facing such signal shall not enter the roadway. Vehicle operators shall stop for pedestrians who or personal delivery devices that have begun to cross the roadway before the display of either signal as required by RCW 46.61.235(1).
- (3) Pedestrian control signals having the "Wait" legend in use on August 6, 1965, shall be deemed authorized signals and shall indicate the same as the "Don't Walk" legend. Whenever such pedestrian control signals are replaced the legend "Wait" shall be replaced by the legend "Don't Walk" or the hand symbol.
- **Sec. 11.** RCW 46.61.235 and 2010 c 242 s 1 are each amended to 26 read as follows:
 - (1) The operator of an approaching vehicle shall stop and remain stopped to allow a pedestrian ((er)), bicycle, or personal delivery device to cross the roadway within an unmarked or marked crosswalk when the pedestrian ((er)), bicycle, or personal delivery device is upon or within one lane of the half of the roadway upon which the vehicle is traveling or onto which it is turning. For purposes of this section "half of the roadway" means all traffic lanes carrying traffic in one direction of travel, and includes the entire width of a one-way roadway.
- 36 (2) No pedestrian ((or)), bicycle, or personal delivery device 37 shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk, run,

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or otherwise move into the path of a vehicle which is so close that it is impossible for the driver to stop.

- (3) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply under the conditions stated in RCW 46.61.240(2).
- (4) Whenever any vehicle is stopped at a marked crosswalk or at any unmarked crosswalk at an intersection to permit a pedestrian ((or)), bicycle, or personal delivery device to cross the roadway, the driver of any other vehicle approaching from the rear shall not overtake and pass such stopped vehicle.
- (5) (a) If a person is found to have committed an infraction under this section within a school, playground, or crosswalk speed zone created under RCW 46.61.440, the person must be assessed a monetary penalty equal to twice the penalty assessed under RCW 46.63.110. The penalty may not be waived, reduced, or suspended.
- 15 (b) Fifty percent of the moneys collected under this subsection 16 must be deposited into the school zone safety account.
 - Sec. 12. RCW 46.61.240 and 1990 c 241 s 5 are each amended to read as follows:
 - (1) Every pedestrian crossing a roadway at any point other than within a marked crosswalk or within an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles upon the roadway. A personal delivery device may not cross a roadway at any point other than within a marked crosswalk or within an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection, except as provided in subsection (2) of this section.
 - (2) Where curb ramps exist at or adjacent to intersections or at marked crosswalks in other locations, ((disabled)) persons with disabilities or personal delivery devices may enter the roadway from the curb ramps and cross the roadway within or as closely as practicable to the crosswalk. All other pedestrian rights and duties as defined elsewhere in this chapter remain applicable.
 - (3) Any pedestrian crossing a roadway at a point where a pedestrian tunnel or overhead pedestrian crossing has been provided shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles upon the roadway.
 - (4) Between adjacent intersections at which traffic-control signals are in operation pedestrians shall not cross at any place except in a marked crosswalk.
 - (5) No pedestrian <u>or personal delivery device</u> shall cross a roadway intersection diagonally unless authorized by official

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- traffic-control devices; and, when authorized to cross diagonally, pedestrians and personal delivery devices shall cross only in accordance with the official traffic-control devices pertaining to such crossing movements.
- 5 (6) No pedestrian <u>or personal delivery device</u> shall cross a 6 roadway at an unmarked crosswalk where an official sign prohibits 7 such crossing.
- 8 **Sec. 13.** RCW 46.61.261 and 2010 c 242 s 3 are each amended to 9 read as follows:
- 10 (1) The driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian ((\(\frac{\text{or}}{\text{or}}\)), bicycle, or personal delivery device on a sidewalk. The rider of a bicycle shall yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian on a sidewalk or crosswalk. A personal delivery device must yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian or a bicycle on a sidewalk or crosswalk.

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- (2) (a) If a person is found to have committed an infraction under this section within a school, playground, or crosswalk speed zone created under RCW 46.61.440, the person must be assessed a monetary penalty equal to twice the penalty assessed under RCW 46.63.110. The penalty may not be waived, reduced, or suspended.
- 21 (b) Fifty percent of the moneys collected under this subsection 22 must be deposited into the school zone safety account.
- 23 **Sec. 14.** RCW 46.61.264 and 1975 c 62 s 42 are each amended to 24 read as follows:
 - (1) Upon the immediate approach of an authorized emergency vehicle making use of an audible signal meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.380 ((subsection)) (4) and visual signals meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.190, or of a police vehicle meeting the requirements of RCW 46.61.035 ((subsection)) (3), every pedestrian and every personal delivery device shall yield the right-of-way to the authorized emergency vehicle.
 - (2) This section shall not relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons using the highway nor from the duty to exercise due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian or any personal delivery device.

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Sec. 15. RCW 46.61.269 and 1975 c 62 s 44 are each amended to read as follows:

- (1) No pedestrian or personal delivery device shall enter or remain upon any bridge or approach thereto beyond a bridge signal gate, or barrier indicating a bridge is closed to through traffic, after a bridge operation signal indication has been given.
- (2) No pedestrian or personal delivery device shall pass through, around, over, or under any crossing gate or barrier at a railroad grade crossing or bridge while such gate or barrier is closed or is being opened or closed.
- **Sec. 16.** RCW 46.61.365 and 1965 ex.s. c 155 s 51 are each 12 amended to read as follows:

The driver of a vehicle within a business or residence district emerging from an alley, driveway or building shall stop such vehicle immediately prior to driving onto a sidewalk or onto the sidewalk area extending across any alleyway or driveway, and shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian or personal delivery device as may be necessary to avoid collision, and upon entering the roadway shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching on said roadway.

- **Sec. 17.** RCW 46.61.710 and 2018 c 60 s 5 are each amended to 21 read as follows:
 - (1) No person shall operate a moped upon the highways of this state unless the moped has been assigned a moped registration number and displays a moped permit in accordance with RCW 46.16A.405(2).
 - (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a moped may not be operated on a bicycle path or trail, bikeway, equestrian trail, or hiking or recreational trail.
 - (3) Operation of a moped, electric personal assistive mobility device, or motorized foot scooter on a fully controlled limited access highway is unlawful. Operation of a personal delivery device on any part of a highway other than a sidewalk or crosswalk is unlawful, except as provided in RCW 46.61.240(2). Operation of a moped on a sidewalk is unlawful. Operation of a motorized foot scooter or class 3 electric-assisted bicycle on a sidewalk is unlawful, unless there is no alternative for a motorized foot scooter or a class 3 electric-assisted bicycle to travel over a sidewalk as part of a bicycle or pedestrian path.

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1 (4) Removal of any muffling device or pollution control device 2 from a moped is unlawful.

- (5) Subsections (1), (2), and (4) of this section do not apply to electric-assisted bicycles.
- (6) Electric-assisted bicycles and motorized foot scooters may have access to highways of the state to the same extent as bicycles, subject to RCW 46.61.160.
- (7) Subject to subsection (10) of this section, class 1 and class 2 electric-assisted bicycles and motorized foot scooters may be operated on a shared-use path or any part of a highway designated for the use of bicycles, but local jurisdictions or state agencies may restrict or otherwise limit the access of electric-assisted bicycles and motorized foot scooters, and local jurisdictions or state agencies may regulate the use of class 1 and class 2 electric-assisted bicycles and motorized foot scooters on facilities and properties under their jurisdiction and control. Local regulation of the operation of class 1 or class 2 electric-assisted bicycles, upon a shared use path designated for the use of bicycles that crosses jurisdictional boundaries of two or more local jurisdictions, must be consistent for the entire shared use path in order for the local regulation to be enforceable; however, this does not apply to local regulations of a shared use path in effect as of January 1, 2018.
- (8) Class 3 electric-assisted bicycles may be operated on facilities that are within or adjacent to a highway. Class 3 electric-assisted bicycles may not be operated on a shared-use path, except where local jurisdictions may allow the use of class 3 electric-assisted bicycles. State agencies or local jurisdictions may regulate the use of class 3 electric-assisted bicycles on facilities and properties under their jurisdiction and control. Local regulation of the operation of class 3 electric-assisted bicycles, upon a shared use path designated for the use of bicycles that crosses jurisdictional boundaries of two or more local jurisdictions, must be consistent for the entire shared use path in order for the local regulation to be enforceable; however, this does not apply to local regulations of a shared use path in effect as of January 1, 2018.
- (9) Except as otherwise provided in this section, an individual shall not operate an electric-assisted bicycle on a trail that is specifically designated as nonmotorized and that has a natural surface tread that is made by clearing and grading the native soil with no added surfacing materials. A local authority or agency of

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this state having jurisdiction over a trail described in this subsection may allow the operation of an electric-assisted bicycle on that trail.

- (10) Subsections (1) and (4) of this section do not apply to motorized foot scooters. Subsection (2) of this section applies to motorized foot scooters when the bicycle path, trail, bikeway, equestrian trail, or hiking or recreational trail was built or is maintained with federal highway transportation funds. Additionally, any new trail or bicycle path or readily identifiable existing trail or bicycle path not built or maintained with federal highway transportation funds may be used by persons operating motorized foot scooters only when appropriately signed.
- (11) A person operating an electric personal assistive mobility device (EPAMD) shall obey all speed limits and shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and human-powered devices at all times. An operator must also give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian. Except for the limitations of this subsection, persons operating an EPAMD have all the rights and duties of a pedestrian.
- 20 (12) The use of an EPAMD may be regulated in the following 21 circumstances:
 - (a) A municipality and the department of transportation may prohibit the operation of an EPAMD on public highways within their respective jurisdictions where the speed limit is greater than twenty-five miles per hour;
 - (b) A municipality may restrict the speed of an EPAMD in locations with congested pedestrian or nonmotorized traffic and where there is significant speed differential between pedestrians or nonmotorized traffic and EPAMD operators. The areas in this subsection must be designated by the city engineer or designee of the municipality. Municipalities shall not restrict the speed of an EPAMD in the entire community or in areas in which there is infrequent pedestrian traffic;
- 34 (c) A state agency or local government may regulate the operation 35 of an EPAMD within the boundaries of any area used for recreation, 36 open space, habitat, trails, or conservation purposes.

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- 1 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 18.** Sections 1 through 4 of this act
- 2 constitute a new chapter in Title 46 RCW.

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