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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
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## Synopsis of Senate Committee Amendments

(This synopsis does not address amendments that may have been adopted on the Senate Floor.)

### H.B. 295 of the 133<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly

#### Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce

Margaret E. Marcy, Attorney

#### Low-speed electric scooters

- Changes all references to a “low-speed electric scooter” to a “low-speed micromobility device.”
- Prohibits a person under 16 from *renting* a low-speed micromobility device (rather than prohibiting any person under 16 from *operating* the device, as in the House-Passed version of the bill).
- Prohibits any person from knowingly renting a low-speed micromobility device to a person who is under 16 or renting on behalf of a person who is under 16.
- Prohibits a person from operating a low-speed micromobility device at a speed greater than 20 miles per hour (rather than at a speed greater than 15 miles per hour, as in the House-Passed version of the bill).
- Makes a violation of the laws related to the operation of a low-speed micromobility device a minor misdemeanor in all instances (rather than gradually increasing penalties for a violation when the offender has committed certain predicate motor vehicle offenses within the prior year, as in the House-Passed version of the bill).
- Adds the divisions of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (subject to the Director of Natural Resources’ approval) to the list of entities that have the authority to regulate or prohibit low-speed micromobility devices in their jurisdiction.
- Authorizes an entity that has the authority to regulate low-speed micromobility devices to do both of the following:
  1. Include low-speed micromobility devices that are adapted to expand access for people with various physical limitations into a shared bicycle, shared electric bicycle (e-bike), or similar vehicle sharing program, under its jurisdiction; and

2. Require the owner or operator of a low-speed micromobility device rental service or sharing program to maintain commercial general liability insurance (at limits of up to \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 per aggregate).

### **Law enforcement use of e-bikes**

Authorizes a law enforcement officer to use an e-bike (with the motor actively engaged) on specified paths, trails, and sidewalks, including when the use of the e-bike (or the use of the e-bike's motor) is otherwise prohibited on those paths, trails, and sidewalks, provided the e-bike is being used in the performance of the officer's duties.

### **Personal delivery devices**

Increases the maximum empty-weight limit of personal delivery devices that are authorized to be used in Ohio from 90 pounds to 200 pounds.