

House Municipal Government & Housing Committee Rhode Island General Assembly
Providence, Rhode Island

Re: Request to Reject “An Act Relating to Motor and Other Vehicles — Regulation of Rental of Motorized Bicycles, Motor Scooters and Motorized Tricycles in New Shoreham”

Members of the Committee:

I am writing to urge the Committee to **reject** the bill introduced on April 1, 2026, concerning the rental of motorized bicycles, motor scooters, and motorized tricycles in New Shoreham.

The new language added to **§31-19.3-5(d)** would permanently reduce the total number of licenses every time one is surrendered, expires, or is revoked. This is not a regulatory adjustment — it is a mechanism that will **eliminate an entire lawful industry over time**. No other license category in New Shoreham is subject to permanent reduction or permanent revocation. This bill creates a uniquely harsh and irreversible penalty aimed at one specific business type.

New Shoreham already has strict, effective ordinances in place, including a cap of **five licenses** and a limit of **34 vehicles per license**. The Town has full authority to regulate, supervise, and enforce compliance. There is no gap in local law that requires state intervention, and certainly not one that justifies a permanent reduction of licenses.

If the Town wishes to change its licensing structure, it already has the power to do so. The state should not be used to phase out a local industry through automatic, irreversible license loss.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee **reject this bill** in its current form.

Sincerely,

Mike Finnimore Owner Island Moped