

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**We Must Act Now to Prevent Further Tragedies: Dr Sophie Scamps Bill Calling for Safer E-Bikes for Everyone**

Dr Sophie Scamps, Federal Member for Mackellar, will introduce the **Safer E-Bikes Bill 2025** (Road Vehicle Standards Amendment) to Parliament on Monday, calling for well-overdue reform to ensure e-bikes are safe, fit-for-purpose, and regulated under federal law.

This bill responds to widespread calls from parents, pedestrians and state politicians for the Federal Government to legislate national safety and import standards for e-bikes. Currently, e-bikes imported into Australia do not have to meet any national safety and quality standard.

“There has been growing community concern about unsafe, high-powered e-bikes being imported and sold without proper oversight. Many new generation e-bikes can be easily modified to exceed legal speed limits, and are being ridden illegally, often unknowingly, on footpaths and roads, posing serious risks to riders, pedestrians and drivers,” said Dr Scamps.

At a recent sold-out community forum hosted by Dr Scamps and Pittwater State MP Jacqui Scruby, trauma surgeons, police, and transport experts highlighted the alarming rise in injuries and enforcement challenges linked to illegal and non-compliant e-bikes.

This is backed up by [research from St Vincent’s Hospital](#) which reported that more than 500 e-bike riders had required critical care in NSW EDs in a two-year period.

“E-bikes have revolutionised the way we move around. They are an important part of the shift to cleaner, more active transport, but the technology has raced ahead of safety legislation. We now often see e-bikes that are more motorbike than bicycle being ridden at high speeds on footpaths and roads.”

“I am very worried we are going to see more tragedies involving pedestrians and riders of these powerful e-bikes unless we act urgently to introduce clear national safety standards,” Dr Scamps said.

This reform has broad support at the state level with New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland Government Ministers all having written to the Federal Government calling for national leadership on unsafe e-bike imports and the establishment of national safety standards.

“This bill is about ensuring the e-bikes imported into Australia are both safe and legal for use and cannot be tampered with to make them go beyond legal speed limits except for specific special purposes.

My Bill would set a clear, practical federal standard to ensure e-bikes can play their part in a cleaner transport future, without compromising the safety of pedestrians or riders,” shared Dr Scamps.

The Bill will:

- **Bring e-bikes under the Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018**, classifying them as road vehicles and requiring them to meet key safety standards when being imported.
- **Require the Minister to establish national safety standards** for both standard and powerful e-bikes, based on the European Standard EN15194 - the current global best practice standard.
- **Ensure safety features** such as operational pedal cranks, anti-tampering protections, and speed limits are mandated by the new standard.

## **ENDS**

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## **EDITORS NOTES**

**Quote from Allegra Spender, Independent Member for Wentworth. Spender is seconding the Bill:**

“E-bikes are practical, clean and cost-effective, but I know that many in our community have concerns about their safety.

At the moment, the line between assisted pedal bikes and motorbikes is blurred and this is at the risk of pedestrians. This is not about cracking down on this increasingly popular mode of transport but we do need to ensure that we have appropriate standards that keep both riders and pedestrians safe.”

**Quote from Peter Bourke, General Manager of Bicycle Industries Australia:**

“The Australian bicycle sector has called on the Government to roll back the 2021 changes that have allowed significant numbers of non-compliant e-bikes to be imported into the country.

We must ensure e-bikes sold to the public cannot be tampered with to increase speed and that the entire bike is subject to a compulsory ‘whole-of-bike’ standard we know will keep children, riders and pedestrians safe.

This is why we are pleased to stand with the Member for Mackellar as she tables this Bill today.”

**Quote from Stephen Hodge, Director of National Advocacy at WeRide Australia:**

"This Bill is about making sure every bike imported into Australia is safe. Whether it's the parent who is taking their children to school or using their bike to get to work, shops or visit friends, e-bikes are making a difference every day in Australia."