

Subject: autocycle bill (HB 2044)

Attn: Transportation Committee,

This bill is important, because it will allow a KS resident, who is a driver of an autocycle, to be legal with a class C license. This bill defines an autocycle and fits this definition into statute, for registration and driver licensing.

An autocycle has three wheels. There is an autocycle that is automotive in every respect. It is being developed by Elio Motors. Their current plan is to start production of this autocycle at a former GM plant in Shreveport, LA in the first half of 2016.

On January 29, 2015, Elio Motors has nearly 39,000 reservations that have been made for this vehicle. I am one of the reservation holders, and there are others in KS.

The American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators created a document that explains the need for an autocycle designation. The document is called "Three-Wheeled Vehicles Best Practices". This bill will implement many of the recommendations found in the AAMVA document.

The Elio autocycle will have automotive driving controls such as a steering wheel, accelerator/brake/clutch pedals, seats and seat belts, air bags, anti-lock brakes, a traction-control system, and a newly designed automotive engine. The cabin is enclosed with a roll cage and holds two people, sitting one behind the other.

Federal law says that less than 4 wheels is a motorcycle, so in KS an autocycle will be registered as a motorcycle.

Without this bill HB 2044, an owner of an autocycle who is a KS resident will need to have a motorcycle license. If the Elio autocycle needs the driver to have a motorcycle license, the driving skills test becomes inappropriate. The autocycle would not fit into certain motorcycle driving tests. Also, motorcycle driving skills are not needed when driving an autocycle.

Please vote "yes" to send this bill to the state legislature. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Jeff Porter
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