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Agency of Transportation

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**Memo**

To: Chair Coffey, Vice Chair Shaw, Members of the House Committee on Transportation  
 Date: February 27, 2024  
 From: Patrick Murphy, Sustainability and Innovations Project Manager  
 Re: eBike Incentive Program Audits

In order to ensure that funds are expended in alignment with program guidelines, the Agency is undertaking post-voucher sampling audits in partnership with the Department of Revenue. As vouchers are intended only for households meeting the lower-income thresholds of the Incentive Program for New PEVS, and approval of applications relies upon self-certification of adjusted gross income, regular audits are a tool to verify compliance with the funding authorization and deter ineligible households from participating. A more rigorous vetting process upfront (requiring proof of participation in SNAP, for example) could unnecessarily narrow the pool of eligible applicants and add substantial administrative costs disproportional to the size of the risk.

The following language is offered for insertion at the end of Section 10 of draft 6.1 of the transportation bill to address the committee’s concerns:

\* \* \* eBike Incentive Program; Authorization \* \* \*

**Sec. 10.** 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 62, **Sec. 22** is amended to read:

**Sec. 22. MODIFICATIONS TO EBIKE INCENTIVE PROGRAM; REPORT**

(d) Reporting. The Agency of Transportation shall address incentives for electric bicycles, electric cargo bicycles, and adaptive electric cycles provided pursuant to this section in the **January 31, 2024 annual** report required under 19 V.S.A. § 2905, as added by Sec. 19 of this act, including:

- (1) the demographics of who received an incentive under the eBike Incentive Program;
- (2) a breakdown of where vouchers were redeemed;
- (3) a breakdown, by manufacturer and type, of electric bicycles, electric cargo bicycles, and adaptive electric cycles incentivized;
- (4) a detailed summary of information provided in the self-certification forms; and **description of the Agency’s post-voucher sampling audits and audit findings with any recommendations to improve program design and cost-effectively direct funding to recipients who need it most; and**
- (5) a detailed summary of information collected through participant surveys.