

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS, UTILITIES, AND ENERGY

BILL SUMMARY

BILL NO.	H.3451
TITLE:	An Act expanding community access to electric bicycles
SPONSOR:	Representative Natalie Blais
COMMITTEE:	Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy
HEARING DATE:	May 14, 2025
PRIOR HISTORY:	2023-2024: H.3145 heard by Committee; reported favorably to House Ways & Means.
CURRENT LAW:	Chapter 25A pertains to the Department of Energy Resources.

SUMMARY:

This legislation adds new section 11J to Chapter 25A to require DOER to establish the Community Access to Electric Bicycles Grant Initiative to help finance bike share programs and ownership programs that municipalities, businesses, and nonprofit organizations administer.

A local municipality, business, or non-profit awarded money under this initiative may use it to buy and maintain e-bikes, equipment, and infrastructure, and pay for the labor costs, administrative costs, or third-party contractor fees for its bike share or ownership program.

To be eligible for grant money, a municipality, business, or non-profit must administer, or contract with a third-party to administer, a bike share or ownership program using a fleet of electric bikes. In administering the initiative, DOER shall establish an application process and develop criteria for awarding grants, giving priority to programs in one or more EJ or disproportionately impacted communities.

DOER shall require municipalities, businesses, or non-profit to provide some matching funds. DOER shall develop periodic reporting requirements for grantees to demonstrate that the money awarded is used in compliance with the purposes of this section, and procedures for addressing grantees noncompliance.