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Pam Bondi
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RE: Gas Powered Bicycle

Dear _____

Thank you for your recent inquiry regarding a gas powered motor on a bicycle and the laws surrounding the use and operation of same on the roadways.

Please be advised that bicycles are not manufactured for use on highways. Adding a gas powered motor does not make a bicycle street legal, as there are other requirements that must be met, such as frame assembly and safety features, in addition to the fact that bicycles are not titled or registered. Gas powered bicycles are not street legal and are not legally allowed on the roadways. There is no situation, with or without a Class E driver license, regardless of the size of the gas powered motor, in which a bicycle propelled by a gas powered motor can or may legally be operated on the roadways.

Florida Statutes do permit a person without a license, if at least 16 years old, to operate a bicycle with an electric-helper motor not capable of propelling the bicycle faster than 20 mph on level ground (Sections 322.03(1), 322.01(26) and 316.003(2), Florida Statutes). Therefore, if you add an electric-helper motor to a bicycle that does not propel more than 20 mph on level ground, you can operate the bicycle legally, with or without a valid license, as long as you are at least 16 years old.

I trust the above satisfactorily responds to your questions and concerns; however, if this is not clear or if you need additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me directly at 850.617.2528, or the Florida Rider Training Program Manager, Kip Bickford, at 863.419.3420 (ext. 2) or kipbickford@flhsmv.gov.

Sincerely,

Demi P. Baxley
Administrative Assistant
Florida Rider Training Program
Bureau of Motorist Compliance