

AB 1939 (GONZALEZ): ELECTRIC PEDICABS

POSITION: The Chamber's Public Policy Committee voted to SUPPORT the legislation on February 11, 2020. The Chamber's Board of Directors voted to SUPPORT the legislation on February 27, 2020.

RATIONALE: This bill provides needed clarification for an industry that was thrown into limbo, but does not preclude additional local regulations.

STATUS: AB 1939 was introduced by Assemblymember Gonzalez on January 16, 2020. It has been referred to the Assembly Committee on Transportation.

SUMMARY

AB 1939 was introduced to provide clarification following local government interpretation of state code to mean that electric-assisted pedicabs were not authorized. As a result, there was a negative impact on the pedicab industry. This bill explicitly expresses that a pedicab includes "passenger transport bicycles and electric bicycle" thereby removing confusion without limiting a local government's ability to implement their own policies on pedicabs.

INDUSTRY/IES IMPACTED

This bill impacts the pedicab, and to a lesser extent tourism, industries.

SUPPORTERS

- San Ysidro Chamber of Commerce

OPPONENTS

None known

ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR

According to the author, pedicabs are a useful part of lowering vehicle emissions and for transporting passengers in major commercial areas. This legislation is necessary to allow for pedicabs to continue to operate.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION

None known.