



April 23, 2024

The Honorable Maria Cantwell, Chair
 The Honorable Ted Cruz, Ranking Member
 Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation
 United States Senate
 Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Cruz:

The undersigned organizations write to express our support for S. 1008, the Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act. This bipartisan legislation would require the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to create, in a timely manner, a federal safety standard for rechargeable lithium-ion batteries used in micromobility devices, such as e-bicycles, e-scooters, and hoverboards.

Micromobility products can be a useful, cost-effective, sustainable, efficient and fun way to get around or earn extra income. These devices have soared in popularity in recent years, and many are manufactured overseas and imported to the U.S. to meet the unprecedented demand. Unfortunately, fires and explosions linked to some of these products have also proliferated. Since

2021, micromobility devices using high energy density batteries have been linked to hundreds of fires and dozens of fatalities across the country, including multiple children. From January 1, 2021, through November 28, 2022, the CPSC documented 19 deaths associated with micromobility-related fires. In 2023, in New York City alone, malfunctioning lithium-ion batteries were linked to at least 243 fires and 18 deaths—up from six deaths in all of 2022. Since the beginning of 2024, there have already been several reports of fires linked to these products in a number of states.

On December 6, 2023, the House Energy and Commerce Committee unanimously passed an updated version of the legislation that directs the CPSC to create a stronger, more comprehensive safety standard for lithium-ion batteries used in micromobility devices. We strongly support these changes, which expand the scope of the legislation to include equipment related to or used in conjunction with rechargeable lithium-ion batteries, including chargers, cables, external packs on chargers and freestanding charging stages. We believe this legislation, as amended, is well positioned to combat the increasing frequency of lithium-ion battery-related fires and will ultimately save lives.

The diverse nature of the undersigned organizations underscores the urgency with which this issue needs to be addressed. No one sector—public safety, private industry, consumer or environmental advocacy—can comprehensively address this growing problem alone. A strong national safety standard enforced by the Consumer Product Safety Commission is the only solution.

We strongly support S. 1008 and urge you and your colleagues to press for the Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act to receive a vote before the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and ultimately for this critical safety legislation to be enacted. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Consumer Reports
Grubhub
International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC)
Chamber of Progress
Consumer Federation of America (CFA)
DoorDash
Fire Department of the City of New York (FDNY)
Flex Association
Hunger Free America
JOCO
Kids in Danger (KID)
Lyft
Manhattan Chamber of Commerce

National ACE
National LGBT Chamber of Commerce
National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC)
New York League of Conservation Voters
Partnership for New York City
PeopleForBikes (P4B)
Queens Chamber of Commerce
Safe Kids Worldwide
The Business Council of New York State
The United States Conference of Mayors
Uber

cc: Members of the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation