



Ninety-Seventh Legislature - Second Session - 2002  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 976**

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**Chairperson:** Senator Curt Bromm  
**Committee:** Transportation and Telecommunications  
**Date of Hearing:** January 28, 2002

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 976 creates a new category of transportation known as an “electric personal assistive mobility device” (EPAMD). An EPAMD is defined as a self-balancing, two-non tandem-wheeled device designed to transport only one person with an electric propulsion system of less than 750 watts (1 h.p.), whose maximum speed on a paved level surface, when powered solely by such a propulsion system while ridden by an operator who weighs 170 pounds, is less than 20 m.p.h.

LB 976 was introduced in anticipation of the “Segway” coming to Nebraska, and provides a legal and regulatory structure for the introduction of this technology that is not currently defined in Nebraska motor vehicle law. The Segway has been featured on “Good Morning America”, and in “Time” Magazine, among others. The Segway is an electric device designed to transport one person at speeds of up to 20 mph. It is balanced by an internal gyroscope, and is electric-powered.

LB 976 permits the operation of the EPAMD on the streets, sidewalks and bikeways of Nebraska. The bill permits municipalities, however, to regulate the use of EPAMD’s. LB 976 requires all EPAMD users to obey speed limits and to yield the right of way at all times. An EPAMD operator will not be required to have a driver’s license or be registered with the DMV. An EPAMD may be operated at night with headlights and operator reflectors.

Without the passage of LB 976, the EPAMD will not clearly fit within any of the current classifications of modes of transportation. Thus, it will be important to pass LB 976 so that when the Segway arrives in Nebraska, it can be properly regulated.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Senator Douglas A. Kristensen**