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HOUSE BILL 1832

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State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representative Macri

1 AN ACT Relating to the electrification of the Washington public  
2 vehicle fleet; adding new sections to chapter 43.19 RCW; and creating  
3 new sections.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

6 (a) Electric vehicles, battery technology, and grid technology  
7 are already sufficiently advanced to transition most of Washington's  
8 publicly owned vehicles to electric vehicles;

9 (b) Washington state has abundant and inexpensive sources of  
10 electrical power capable of supplying the energy needed to power the  
11 state's fleet of public vehicles;

12 (c) The transition to an electrically powered fleet of public  
13 vehicles would spur jobs and economic development based on new  
14 technologies and would stem the outflow of millions of dollars from  
15 Washington taxpayers to foreign oil providers and keep those dollars  
16 local;

17 (d) The transition to an electrically powered fleet of public  
18 vehicles would save Washington taxpayers millions of dollars in fuel  
19 and vehicle maintenance costs each year; and

20 (e) Exercising a leadership role in the deployment of electric  
21 vehicles would benefit Washington's governments, economy, technology

1 centers, financial institutions, and businesses by putting the state  
2 in the forefront of transportation technology.

3 (2) It is the intent of the legislature that the department of  
4 enterprise services establish a plan and rules for switching to  
5 electric vehicles by all public agencies in the state of Washington  
6 including, but not limited to, state agencies, public colleges and  
7 universities, counties, cities, and special purpose districts, in a  
8 manner that minimizes costs and maximizes benefits for Washington's  
9 economy, improves and modernizes Washington's energy infrastructure,  
10 and maintains electric system reliability.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The definitions in the section apply  
12 throughout sections 3 through 5 of this act unless the context  
13 clearly requires otherwise.

14 (1) "Electric vehicle" means a vehicle that uses chemical energy  
15 stored in rechargeable battery packs, and electric motors and motor  
16 controllers instead of internal combustion engines for propulsion.  
17 "Electric vehicle" includes hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles,  
18 which are vehicles that use a fuel cell, instead of a battery, or in  
19 combination with a battery or supercapacitor, to power their on-board  
20 electric motor.

21 (2) "Medium and heavy vehicles" are motor vehicles with a gross  
22 vehicle weight in excess of ten thousand pounds.

23 (3) "Passenger and light duty vehicles" are motor vehicles with a  
24 gross vehicle weight rating of up to ten thousand pounds.

25 (4) "Transition period" refers to the period beginning January 1,  
26 2021, and ending December 31, 2030.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) On or before January 1, 2021, the  
28 department of enterprise services shall complete a scoping plan for  
29 achieving the following:

30 (a) A requirement that all passenger and light duty vehicles of  
31 model year 2023 or later owned or operated by agencies of the state  
32 of Washington be electric vehicles.

33 (b) A requirement that all medium and heavy duty vehicles of  
34 model year 2026 or later owned or operated by agencies of the state  
35 of Washington be electric vehicles.

36 (c) A requirement that all passenger and light duty vehicles of  
37 model year 2025 or later owned or operated by local governments of  
38 the state of Washington be electric vehicles.

1 (d) A requirement that all medium and heavy duty vehicles of  
2 model year 2027 or later owned or operated by local governments of  
3 the state of Washington be electric vehicles.

4 (2) In developing the scoping plan, the department of enterprise  
5 services shall consult with state agencies with jurisdiction over  
6 public passenger and light duty vehicles, including the department of  
7 ecology, the department of licensing, the transportation commission,  
8 and the department of transportation, and with the Puget Sound clean  
9 air agency.

10 (3) In developing the scoping plan, the department of enterprise  
11 services may assume that the technology available through 2027 is  
12 substantially similar to the state of the art of vehicle technology  
13 as it exists in the year 2020. In developing its cost-analysis  
14 framework, the department of enterprise services may rely on and/or  
15 apply reasonable cost assumptions regarding the cost of implementing  
16 electric vehicle technology based on anticipated economies of scale,  
17 technology learning curves, and other widely accepted cost estimating  
18 techniques.

19 (4) The scoping plan shall assume implementation of the  
20 requirements set forth in subsection (1) of this section in  
21 addressing the following:

22 (a) Predicted number of publicly owned electric vehicles and  
23 internal combustion engine vehicles registered in Washington during  
24 the transition period, broken down by year, vehicle type, state  
25 agency, counties, cities, and special purpose districts;

26 (b) Predicted number, type, year of installation, and location  
27 profile of electric vehicle fueling stations needed to provide  
28 prompt, efficient, and cost-effective fueling of Washington publicly  
29 owned electric vehicles during the transition period, and an estimate  
30 of the yearly and aggregate cost to the public in building out said  
31 fueling stations;

32 (c) An analysis of the electrical generation, transmission, and  
33 distribution upgrades and build-out required to provide prompt,  
34 efficient, and cost-effective fueling of Washington publicly owned  
35 electric vehicles during the transition period, and an analysis of  
36 the investment required to implement said upgrades.

37 (d) An estimate of the cost differential between the purchase  
38 price of new electric and internal combustion engine fleet vehicles  
39 during the transition period;

1 (e) An estimate of the lifetime cost of ownership of electric and  
2 internal combustion engine fleet vehicles during the transition  
3 period;

4 (f) Predicted yearly decrease in gasoline and diesel sales in  
5 Washington, the savings to taxpayers therefrom, and the fuel dollars  
6 retained in Washington that would have otherwise been expended  
7 elsewhere;

8 (g) Identification of financing mechanisms that could be utilized  
9 to finance the transition of publicly owned vehicles to electric  
10 vehicles.

11 (5) The department of enterprise services shall issue  
12 recommendations concerning making an exception to the electric  
13 vehicle requirement for those classes of vehicles for which no  
14 reasonable electric vehicle option exists, potentially including  
15 police, fire, and other emergency response vehicles.

16 (6) In developing said scoping plan, the department of enterprise  
17 services shall consult with state and local governments, the Puget  
18 Sound clean air agency, and other appropriate entities.

19 (7) In drafting the scoping plan, the department of enterprise  
20 services shall consider relevant information pertaining to vehicle  
21 fleet programs in other states, localities, and nations.

22 (8) The department of enterprise services shall evaluate the  
23 total potential costs and total potential economic and noneconomic  
24 benefits of the plan for shifting to a public fleet of electric  
25 vehicles to Washington's economy, using the best available economic  
26 models, emission estimation techniques, and other scientific methods.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) All passenger and light duty vehicles  
28 of model year 2023 or later operated by agencies of the state of  
29 Washington must be electric vehicles. All medium and heavy duty  
30 vehicles of model year 2026 or later operated by agencies of the  
31 state of Washington must be electric vehicles, except as provided in  
32 subsection (3) of this section.

33 (2) All passenger and light duty vehicles of model year 2025 or  
34 later operated by local governments of the state of Washington must  
35 be electric vehicles. All medium and heavy duty vehicles of model  
36 year 2027 or later operated by agencies of the state of Washington  
37 must be electric vehicles, except as provided in subsection (3) of  
38 this section.

1 (3) Subsections (1) and (2) of this section are exempted for  
2 police, fire, emergency response, and other vehicles upon a  
3 determination by the department of enterprise services that no  
4 adequate electric vehicles are available in the market to meet the  
5 specific criteria for those vehicles. This determination must be made  
6 annually.

7 (4) The department of enterprise services shall adopt rules as  
8 necessary for the implementation of this section.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) The department of licensing shall not  
10 issue an original registration of a publicly owned vehicle pursuant  
11 to RCW 46.16A.040 nor a registration renewal for a publicly owned  
12 vehicle not purchased in compliance with this section.

13 (2) The department of licensing shall monitor compliance and  
14 enforce this section and any rule adopted by the department of  
15 enterprise services pursuant to this section.

16 (3) Any violation of this section or any rule adopted by the  
17 department of enterprise services pursuant to this section may be  
18 enjoined by the department of licensing or the office of the attorney  
19 general.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Nothing in this section relieves any  
21 person, entity, or public agency of compliance with other applicable  
22 federal, state, or local laws or regulations.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** This act may be known and cited as the  
24 Washington electrified fleet act of 2019.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** If any provision of this act or its  
26 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the  
27 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other  
28 persons or circumstances is not affected.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** Sections 2 through 6 of this act are each  
30 added to chapter 43.19 RCW.

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