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**HOUSE BILL 2611**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2020 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Duerr, Mead, Ramel, Fitzgibbon, and Gregerson

1 AN ACT Relating to promoting the development of the Washington  
2 state bioeconomy; and creating new sections.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that expanding  
5 the use of renewable biological resources as feedstock in the  
6 production of fuels, chemicals, and other materials is an important  
7 part of developing a sustainable economy throughout Washington.

8 (2) The legislature further finds that the expansion of a strong,  
9 circular bioeconomy throughout the state would provide new jobs at  
10 local and regional levels, create opportunities to grow new bio-based  
11 product markets, help produce large volumes of low carbon fuels, and  
12 diversify sources of energy in Washington.

13 (3) The legislature further finds that Washington state contains  
14 ideal conditions to develop a robust bioeconomy due to its well-  
15 trained workforce and manufacturing experience, available land base  
16 for growing feedstock, excellent infrastructure, and access to  
17 domestic and global markets.

18 (4) Therefore, the legislature intends to direct a study to  
19 identify opportunities, and to develop processes, systems, and  
20 policies, that promote the expansion of a strong, circular bioeconomy  
21 throughout Washington state.

1        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 2.**        (1) The University of Washington is  
2 directed to conduct a study to identify opportunities to further  
3 develop Washington state's bioeconomy to expand the use of renewable  
4 biological resources in the production of fuels, chemicals, and other  
5 materials. The study, at minimum, must:

6        (a) Develop, to the extent feasible, new processes that use  
7 biomass resources to produce high value chemicals, high value  
8 products, and high volume fuels in Washington, including the  
9 development of processes to fractionate feedstocks, such as woody  
10 biomass;

11        (b) Develop, to the extent feasible, biomass production systems  
12 that provide effective water treatments in Washington, with an  
13 emphasis on cleaning municipal treatment wastewater and roadway  
14 stormwater;

15        (c) Identify and assess optimal locations throughout Washington  
16 state to site a biorefinery factory; and

17        (d) Identify and analyze policy options that can promote the  
18 further development of a circular bioeconomy in Washington.

19        (2) By July 1, 2023, the results of the study required in  
20 subsection (1) of this section must be submitted in a report to the  
21 appropriate committees of the legislature consistent with the  
22 requirements of RCW 43.01.036.

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