
HOUSE BILL 1832

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Macri, Fitzgibbon, Ryu, Stanford, Santos, Doglio, and Pollet

Read first time 02/01/19. Referred to Committee on State Government & Tribal Relations.

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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