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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5526**

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**State of Washington**

**67th Legislature**

**2022 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Business, Financial Services & Trade (originally sponsored by Senators Fortunato, Padden, and J. Wilson)

READ FIRST TIME 02/02/22.

1 AN ACT Relating to the global availability of lithium and  
2 critical materials for battery manufacturing; and creating a new  
3 section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that while the  
6 state is increasingly encouraging new energy storage technologies  
7 such as electric vehicles and electric grid scale battery storage,  
8 these technologies are dependent on critical materials and difficult-  
9 to-source earth components. Current battery production processes can  
10 require cobalt, lithium, nickel, manganese, neodymium, iron, copper,  
11 aluminum, and phosphate among additional minerals. The legislature  
12 further finds that the increasing popularity of electric vehicles has  
13 created a need for a smart end-of-life process for batteries used in  
14 electric vehicles to protect Washington state residents. It is the  
15 intent of the legislature for Washington state to become a worldwide  
16 leader in electric vehicle battery recycling and stewardship.

17 (2)(a) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for  
18 this specific purpose, the department of commerce shall:

19 (i) Conduct a literature review of the global availability of  
20 lithium, critical materials, and other materials used in electric  
21 vehicle batteries;

1           (ii) Research successful approaches and methods used in other  
2 states and countries and by private companies to develop  
3 infrastructure for recycling batteries used in electric vehicles.  
4 Methods may include incentives for manufacturers to extract critical  
5 materials from electric vehicle batteries for reuse, as well as  
6 requirements for designing electric vehicle batteries for recycling;  
7 and

8           (iii) Collaborate with the department of ecology on drafting  
9 legislation to establish a statewide recycling program for batteries  
10 used in electric vehicles.

11          (b) The department of commerce may consult with the department of  
12 ecology, the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, and the joint  
13 center for the deployment and research in earth abundant materials to  
14 prepare these materials.

15          (c) The department of commerce must submit a report to the  
16 legislature by June 30, 2023, in compliance with RCW 43.01.036. At a  
17 minimum, the report must summarize the literature review and  
18 successful approaches and methods research and provide draft  
19 legislation as required by (a) of this subsection.

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