
SENATE BILL 5526

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2022 Regular Session

By Senators Fortunato, Padden, and J. Wilson

Prefiled 12/09/21. Read first time 01/10/22. Referred to Committee on Business, Financial Services & Trade.

1 AN ACT Relating to studying the global availability of lithium
2 and rare earth minerals 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 rare earth minerals and
9 difficult-to-source earth components. Current battery production
10 processes can require cobalt, lithium, nickel, manganese, neodymium,
11 iron, copper, aluminum, and phosphate among additional minerals.
12 Thus, by December 31, 2023, the department of commerce shall submit a
13 report to the legislature examining the global availability of
14 lithium and rare earth minerals used in battery manufacturing. The
15 department of commerce may consult the Pacific Northwest national
16 laboratory and the joint center for the deployment and research in
17 earth abundant materials to prepare the report.

18 (2) The legislature intends to appropriate sufficient moneys to
19 carry out the purposes of this act.

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