

Amending Current Law to Require Public Entities to Enforce The Purchase Electric Vehicles for Motor Fleets As A First Priority

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington State Legislature should amend RCW 43.19.648 to require our Department of Commerce to re-draft WAC 194-28 and WAC 194-29 (the rules issued in implementation of that statute) to (1) delete the word “practicability” and instead declare clear policy language for purchasing EVs wherever such vehicles can adequately meet the agency’s genuine needs, and (2) provide accountability for failures to comply with RCW 43.19.648; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washington Department of Commerce articulate in WAC 194-28 or 194-29 an unequivocal EV-first policy that expressly provides for purchases of EVs unless there is an actual and demonstrable need to purchase gasoline- or diesel-powered vehicles instead; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that both gasoline- and diesel-powered vehicles be removed from the state master contract for vehicle purchases, wherever EVs are available as a practicable alternative; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that grant and loan funding for public entities to construct charging facilities and subsidize the initial outlays for purchasing electric vehicles be expanded to fully enable implementation of the transition contemplated by RCW 43.19.648; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to all of our State Senators and Representatives, and to the Governor.

Submitted by the Environment and Climate Caucus of the Washington State Democrats.

The Resolutions Committee recommended that this resolution be passed as amended at their September 15, 2018 meeting.

The Washington State Democratic Central Committee passed this resolution on September 16, 2018.