

Union Calendar No. 717

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 9615

[Report No. 119–818]

To support the recycling and recovery of lithium-ion batteries.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 9, 2026

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Energy and Commerce

SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

Additional sponsors: Mr. RUIZ, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mrs. HARSHBARGER

SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole
House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on July 9, 2026]

A BILL

To support the recycling and recovery of lithium-ion
batteries.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 *This Act may be cited as the “Battery Recycling for*
 5 *America’s Competitive Economy Act” or the “BRACE Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. END OF LIFE LITHIUM-ION BATTERY MANAGEMENT.**

7 (a) *DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:*

8 (1) *ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-*
 9 *trator” means the Administrator of the Environ-*
 10 *mental Protection Agency.*

11 (2) *BATTERY.—The term “battery” has the*
 12 *meaning given such term in section 273.9 of title 40,*
 13 *Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regula-*
 14 *tions).*

15 (3) *DESTINATION FACILITY.—The term “destina-*
 16 *tion facility” has the meaning given such term in sec-*
 17 *tion 273.9 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (or*
 18 *any successor regulations).*

19 (4) *LARGE QUANTITY HANDLER OF UNIVERSAL*
 20 *WASTE.—The term “large quantity handler of uni-*
 21 *versal waste” has the meaning given such term in sec-*
 22 *tion 273.9 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (or*
 23 *any successor regulations).*

24 (5) *LITHIUM-ION BATTERY.—The term “lithium-*
 25 *ion battery” means a battery that uses the movement*

1 *of lithium ions between two electrodes to store and re-*
2 *lease energy.*

3 **(b) INTERIM REQUIREMENTS FOR LITHIUM-ION BAT-**
4 **TERIES.**—*Until the date on which the Administrator issues*
5 *the rule pursuant to subsection (c), in lieu of the require-*
6 *ments described in section 273.60(a) of title 40, Code of Fed-*
7 *eral Regulations (or any successor regulations), a destina-*
8 *tion facility that stores lithium-ion batteries prior to recy-*
9 *cling such lithium-ion batteries shall comply with—*

10 *(1) the requirements described in sections*
11 *273.33(a)(1), 273.35, 273.36, and 273.37 of title 40,*
12 *Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regula-*
13 *tions), which shall apply as if the destination facility*
14 *were a large quantity handler of universal waste; and*

15 *(2) the requirements described in section*
16 *273.60(b) of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (or*
17 *any successor regulations), which shall apply as if the*
18 *destination facility did not store the lithium-ion bat-*
19 *teries prior to recycling such lithium-ion batteries.*

20 **(c) UNIVERSAL WASTE RULEMAKING FOR LITHIUM-**
21 **ION BATTERIES.**—

22 **(1) IN GENERAL.**—*Not later than 18 months*
23 *after the date of enactment of this Act, the Adminis-*
24 *trator shall issue a rule regarding the management of*
25 *lithium-ion batteries as universal waste.*

1 (2) *CONTENTS.*—*In issuing the rule pursuant to*
2 *paragraph (1), the Administrator shall consider in-*
3 *cluding in such rule, in addition to any other issue*
4 *that arises as part of the notice and comment period*
5 *for such rule, the following:*

6 (A) *Universal waste requirements specially*
7 *tailored for lithium-ion batteries.*

8 (B) *Elements of the interim requirements*
9 *for lithium-ion batteries specified in subsection*
10 *(b), as appropriate.*

11 (C) *Any additional regulatory changes to*
12 *support the recycling of lithium-ion batteries*
13 *and recovery of critical minerals, while main-*
14 *taining protections for health and the environ-*
15 *ment.*

16 (D) *Additional safety requirements needed*
17 *to address gaps in existing protections.*

18 (3) *RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.*—*Nothing in this*
19 *subsection shall be construed to limit any future rule-*
20 *making of the Environmental Protection Agency re-*
21 *garding lithium-ion batteries.*

1 **SEC. 3. TECHNICAL UPDATES TO THE MERCURY-CON-**
2 **TAINING AND RECHARGEABLE BATTERY MAN-**
3 **AGEMENT ACT.**

4 *Section 104(a) of the Mercury-Containing and Re-*
5 *chargeable Battery Management Act (42 U.S.C. 14323(a))*
6 *is amended by striking “the regulations promulgated by the*
7 *Environmental Protection Agency at 60 Fed. Reg. 25492*
8 *(May 11, 1995), as effective on May 11, 1995” and insert-*
9 *ing “part 273 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (or*
10 *any successor regulations)”.*

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