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To establish a working group on electric vehicles, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 27, 2019

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. MERKLEY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To establish a working group on electric vehicles, and for other purposes.

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 “Electric Transpor-
5 tation Commission and National Strategy Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ELECTRIC VEHICLE WORKING GROUP.**

7 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING GROUP.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
9 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
10 retary of Transportation and the Secretary of En-

1 ergy (referred to in this section as the “Secre-
2 taries”) shall jointly establish a working group (re-
3 ferred to in this section as the “working group”) to
4 make recommendations on the development, adop-
5 tion, and integration of electric vehicles into the
6 transportation and energy systems of the United
7 States.

8 (2) MEMBERSHIP.—

9 (A) IN GENERAL.—The working group
10 shall be composed of—

11 (i) the Secretaries (or designees), who
12 shall be co-chairs of the working group;
13 and

14 (ii) not more than 25 members to be
15 appointed by the Secretaries, of whom—

16 (I) not more than 6 shall be Fed-
17 eral stakeholders as described in sub-
18 paragraph (B); and

19 (II) not more than 19 shall be
20 non-Federal stakeholders as described
21 in subparagraph (C).

22 (B) FEDERAL STAKEHOLDERS.—The
23 working group—

24 (i) shall include not less than 1 rep-
25 resentative of each of—

1 (I) the Department of Transpor-
2 tation;

3 (II) the Department of Energy;

4 (III) the Environmental Protec-
5 tion Agency; and

6 (IV) the General Services Admin-
7 istration; and

8 (ii) may include a representative of
9 any other Federal agency the Secretaries
10 consider to be appropriate.

11 (C) NON-FEDERAL STAKEHOLDERS.—The
12 working group—

13 (i) shall include not less than 1 rep-
14 resentative of each of—

15 (I) a manufacturer of electric ve-
16 hicles or the relevant components of
17 electric vehicles;

18 (II) an owner, operator, or manu-
19 facturer of electric vehicle charging
20 equipment;

21 (III) the public utility industry;

22 (IV) a public utility regulator or
23 association of public utility regulators;

24 (V) the transportation fueling
25 distribution industry;

- 1 (VI) the energy provider indus-
- 2 try;
- 3 (VII) the automotive dealing in-
- 4 dustry;
- 5 (VIII) the passenger transpor-
- 6 tation industry;
- 7 (IX) an organization representing
- 8 a unit of local government;
- 9 (X) a regional transportation or
- 10 planning agency;
- 11 (XI) an organization representing
- 12 State departments of transportation;
- 13 (XII) an organization rep-
- 14 resenting State departments of energy
- 15 or State energy planners;
- 16 (XIII) an expert in intelligent
- 17 transportation systems and tech-
- 18 nologies;
- 19 (XIV) organized labor;
- 20 (XV) the trucking industry;
- 21 (XVI) Tribal governments; and
- 22 (XVII) the property development
- 23 industry; and

1 (ii) may include a representative of
2 any other non-Federal stakeholder that the
3 Secretaries consider to be appropriate.

4 (3) MEETINGS.—

5 (A) IN GENERAL.—The working group
6 shall meet not less frequently than once every
7 120 days.

8 (B) REMOTE PARTICIPATION.—A member
9 of the working group may participate in a meet-
10 ing of the working group via teleconference or
11 similar means.

12 (b) REPORT AND STRATEGY ON ELECTRIC VEHICLE
13 ADOPTION, OPPORTUNITIES, AND CHALLENGES.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—The working group shall
15 submit to Congress by each of the deadlines de-
16 scribed in paragraph (2)—

17 (A) a report on the status of electric vehi-
18 cle adoption and opportunities for and chal-
19 lenges to expanding adoption of electric vehi-
20 cles, including—

21 (i) a description of the barriers and
22 opportunities to scaling up electric vehicle
23 adoption nationwide, including issues relat-
24 ing to—

25 (I) consumer behavior;

- 1 (II) charging infrastructure
2 needs, including standardization;
- 3 (III) manufacturing and battery
4 costs;
- 5 (IV) the adoption of electric vehi-
6 cles for low- and moderate-income in-
7 dividuals and underserved commu-
8 nities, including charging infrastruc-
9 ture access and vehicle purchase fi-
10 nancing;
- 11 (V) business models for charging
12 electric vehicles outside the home;
- 13 (VI) charging infrastructure per-
14 mitting and regulatory issues;
- 15 (VII) cybersecurity of charging
16 infrastructure;
- 17 (VIII) secondary markets and re-
18 cycling for batteries;
- 19 (IX) grid integration;
- 20 (X) energy storage; and
- 21 (XI) specific regional or local
22 issues that—
- 23 (aa) are associated with—

1 (AA) the issues de-
2 scribed in subclauses (I)
3 through (X); or

4 (BB) urban or rural en-
5 vironments; and

6 (bb) may not appear nation-
7 wide, but hamper a nationwide
8 adoption or coordination of elec-
9 tric vehicles;

10 (ii) examples of successful public and
11 private models and demonstration projects
12 that encourage electric vehicle adoption;
13 and

14 (iii) an analysis of current efforts to
15 overcome the barriers described in clause
16 (i); and

17 (B) a strategy that describes how the Fed-
18 eral Government, States, units of local govern-
19 ment, and industry can—

20 (i) overcome the barriers described in
21 subparagraph (A)(i);

22 (ii) identify areas of opportunity in re-
23 search and development to improve battery
24 manufacturing, mineral mining, recycling

costs, material recovery, and battery performance for electric vehicles;

(iii) enhance Federal interagency coordination to promote electric vehicle adoption;

(iv) promote electric vehicle knowledge and expertise within State and local governments;

(v) prepare the workforce for the adoption of electric vehicles, including through collaboration with labor unions, colleges and other educational institutions, and relevant manufacturers;

(vi) expand electric vehicle and charging infrastructure—

(I) knowledge and use among Federal, State, and local governments, school districts, and private entities; and

(II) adoption among the fleets of the entities described in subclause (I);

(vii) expand knowledge of the benefits of electric vehicles among the general public;

1 (viii) maintain the global competitive-
 2 ness of the United States in the electric ve-
 3 hicle and charging infrastructure markets;

4 (ix) provide clarity in regulations to
 5 improve national uniformity with respect to
 6 electric vehicles; and

7 (x) ensure the sustainable integration
 8 of electric vehicles into the national electric
 9 grid.

10 (2) DEADLINES.—A report under paragraph
 11 (1) shall be submitted by—

12 (A) for the first report, not later than 1
 13 year after the date on which the working group
 14 is established under subsection (a)(1);

15 (B) for the second report, not later than 2
 16 years after the date on which the first report is
 17 required to be submitted under subparagraph
 18 (A); and

19 (C) for the third report, not later than 2
 20 years after the date on which the second report
 21 is required to be submitted under subparagraph
 22 (B).

23 (c) ELECTRIC VEHICLE RESOURCE GUIDE.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—The working group shall de-
 25 velop, publish, and update a resource guide to pro-

1 vide information to increase knowledge about electric
2 vehicles and necessary charging infrastructure for
3 consumers, State, local, and Tribal governments (in-
4 cluding transit agencies or authorities, public tolling
5 authorities, metropolitan planning organizations,
6 public utility commissions, and public service compa-
7 nies), and businesses that sell motor vehicles.

8 (2) INCLUSIONS.—A resource guide under para-
9 graph (1) shall include—

10 (A) information on—

11 (i) the general characteristics of elec-
12 tric vehicles (including passenger vehicles,
13 electric vehicles for public transportation,
14 school buses, and electric vehicles for com-
15 mercial use); and

16 (ii) the types of charging solutions
17 available to consumers, including, to the
18 maximum extent practicable, a digitally ac-
19 cessible compilation of existing mapping of
20 publicly available charging stations in the
21 United States;

22 (B) information on electrifying business
23 and government vehicle fleets;

24 (C) information on Federal grant pro-
25 grams available to State and local governments

1 for the purchase of electric vehicles for public
2 transportation;

3 (D) a description of current financial and
4 nonfinancial incentives for electric vehicles; and

5 (E) any other information that—

6 (i) a representative of industry or
7 State or local government requests to be
8 included; and

9 (ii) the working group determines to
10 be appropriate.

11 (3) USE OF EXISTING GUIDES.—In developing,
12 publishing, and maintaining the resource guide
13 under paragraph (1), the working group shall con-
14 sider existing Federal, State, local, private sector,
15 and academic guides relating to electric vehicles and,
16 to the maximum extent practicable, coordinate with
17 the entities publishing those guides—

18 (A) to prevent duplication of efforts by the
19 Federal Government; and

20 (B) to leverage existing complementary ef-
21 forts.

22 (4) RESOURCE GUIDE OUTREACH.—The work-
23 ing group shall conduct outreach to consumers,
24 State, local, and Tribal governments (including tran-
25 sit agencies or authorities, public tolling authorities,

1 metropolitan planning organizations, public utility
2 commissions, and public service companies), and
3 businesses that sell motor vehicles via the internet,
4 social media, and other methods—

5 (A) to provide the resource guide under
6 paragraph (1) to interested stakeholders, in-
7 cluding relevant consumer groups and transpor-
8 tation-related organizations;

9 (B) to promote the use of electric vehicles
10 in both government and industry fleets; and

11 (C) to educate individuals involved in the
12 sale of motor vehicles about the benefits of elec-
13 tric vehicles.

14 (5) SUBSEQUENT RESOURCE GUIDES.—Not less
15 frequently than every 2 years for the duration of the
16 working group, the working group shall publish an
17 update to the resource guide under paragraph (1),
18 as appropriate based on technological innovation and
19 subsequent information.

20 (6) ACCESSIBILITY.—The Secretaries shall each
21 maintain the resource guide under paragraph (1) on
22 a designated website, which may be an existing
23 website, of each Secretary relating to electric vehi-
24 cles.

1 (d) COORDINATION.—To the maximum extent prac-
2 ticable, the Secretaries and the working group shall carry
3 out this section using all available existing resources,
4 websites, and databases of Federal agencies, such as the
5 Alternative Fuels Data Center.

6 (e) FUNDING.—The Secretaries shall carry out this
7 section using existing funds made available to the Secre-
8 taries and not otherwise obligated.

9 (f) TERMINATION.—The working group shall termi-
10 nate on the date on which the third report under sub-
11 section (b) is submitted.

