

SENATE BILL 553

M3, M5

6lr2897
CF HB 833

By: **Senator Augustine**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2026

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 25, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Commission to Advance Lithium–Ion Battery Safety in Maryland –**
3 **Reestablishment**

4 FOR the purpose of reestablishing the Commission to Advance Lithium–Ion Battery Safety
5 in Maryland with an altered membership and mandate; and generally relating to the
6 Commission to Advance Lithium–Ion Battery Safety in Maryland.

7 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
8 That:

9 (a) There is a Commission to Advance Lithium–Ion Battery Safety in Maryland.

10 (b) The Commission consists of:

11 (1) the following members serving on the Commission on December 31,
12 2025:

13 (i) one representative of the Department of the Environment,
14 appointed by the Secretary of the Environment;

15 (ii) the following members, appointed by the Director of the
16 Maryland Energy Administration:

17 1. one representative of the Maryland Energy
18 Administration;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (xv) one representative of a battery recycling trade group; and

2 (xvi) one representative of the grid scale battery energy storage
3 industry; and

4 (2) the following additional members:

5 (i) one representative of the Maryland Port Administration,
6 appointed by the Secretary of Transportation;

7 (ii) one representative of the ocean freight shipping industry,
8 appointed by the Secretary of Transportation;

9 (iii) one representative of the property casualty insurance industry,
10 appointed by the Maryland Insurance Commissioner;

11 (iv) one representative of the commercial insurance industry,
12 appointed by the Maryland Insurance Commissioner;

13 (v) one representative of the Land and Materials Administration,
14 appointed by the Secretary of the Environment; ~~and~~

15 (vi) one representative of the Towing and Recovery Professionals of
16 Maryland; and

17 (vii) any other members as determined necessary by the Commission.

18 (c) The member serving as chair of the Commission on December 31, 2025, shall
19 continue to serve as chair of the Commission.

20 (d) The Office of the State Fire Marshal shall provide staff for the Commission.

21 (e) A member of the Commission:

22 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Commission; but

23 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
24 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

25 (f) The Commission shall study and make legislative, regulatory, programmatic,
26 or other recommendations regarding:

27 (1) best practices, standards, and guidelines:

28 (i) to prevent, detect, and suppress lithium-ion battery fires in:

29 1. consumer and transportation applications; and

