

S 1487

Zero-Emission Vehicles Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: May 15, 2019

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. (May 15, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1487>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]

Party: Democratic • **State:** OR • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (7 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY] | D · NY | | May 15, 2019 |
| Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA] | D · CA | | May 15, 2019 |
| Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT] | I · VT | | May 15, 2019 |
| Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI] | D · HI | | May 15, 2019 |
| Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI] | D · RI | | May 15, 2019 |
| Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM] | D · NM | | Jul 29, 2019 |
| Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA] | D · MA | | Sep 9, 2019 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|--|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Environment and Public Works Committee | Senate | Referred To | May 15, 2019 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|----------------|--|
| 116 HR 8635 | Related bill | Oct 20, 2020: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. |
| 116 S 4823 | Related bill | Oct 20, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. |
| 116 HR 2764 | Identical bill | May 16, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change. |

Zero-Emission Vehicles Act of 2019

This bill requires the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to establish a zero-emission passenger vehicle standard. Specifically, the bill sets a schedule for increasing the percentage of zero-emission vehicles a vehicle manufacturer delivers for sale, culminating in a requirement to sell only zero-emission vehicles from 2040 on. The bill also requires the EPA to establish a zero-emission vehicle credit program that approves one zero-emission vehicle credit for each zero-emission vehicle delivered for sale in the United States and partial credits for qualified electric vehicles based on the estimated proportion of the mileage driven on the battery.

Manufacturers that fail to meet the minimum required percentage of zero-emission vehicle sales must submit to the EPA a quantity of zero-emission vehicle credits sufficient to offset the excess.

Credits may also be sold, transferred, exchanged, or retired in certain circumstances.

The bill imposes civil penalties for the failure to comply with zero-emission vehicle credit standards, with collected penalties being deposited into the Highway Trust Fund. After 2040, the EPA may issue injunctions on the manufacture of passenger vehicles other than zero-emission vehicles.

Actions Timeline

- **May 15, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 15, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.