



Home	Bill Information	California Law	Publications	Other Resources	My Subscriptions	My Favorites
------	------------------	----------------	--------------	-----------------	------------------	--------------

AB-855 Vehicles: commercial electric vehicle safety. (2025-2026)

SHARE THIS:  

Date Published: 03/04/2025 09:00 PM

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 04, 2025

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2025–2026 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

NO. 855

Introduced by Assembly Member Lackey

February 19, 2025

An act to add Section 34521 to the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 855, as amended, Lackey. Vehicles: commercial electric vehicle safety.

Existing law requires the Department of the California Highway Patrol to regulate the safe operation of certain vehicles, including, but not limited to, motortrucks of 3 or more axles that are more than 10,000 pounds gross vehicle weight rating, truck tractors, and specified other motortrucks regulated by the department, the Department of Consumer Affairs, or the United States Secretary of Transportation. *Existing law establishes the Office of Emergency Services within the office of the Governor and requires the office to be responsible for the state's emergency and disaster response services for natural, technological, or manmade disasters and emergencies.*

This bill would require the ~~Department of the California Highway Patrol~~, *Office of Emergency Services*, on or before January 1, 2027, to develop and post on its internet website an action plan for responding to electric commercial motor vehicle battery fires that covers specified topics, including best practices for reducing wildfire risk and mitigating the risk of battery reignition. The bill would require the ~~department, office~~, in developing the action plan, to consult with certain stakeholders, including ~~electric truck manufacturers~~ *the Department of the California Highway Patrol, electric truck manufacturers*, and labor organizations.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 34521 is added to the Vehicle Code, to read:

34521. (a) On or before January 1, 2027, the ~~department~~ *Office of Emergency Services* shall develop and post on its internet website an action plan for responding to electric commercial motor vehicle battery fires.

(b) The action plan shall include, at a minimum, best practices that address all of the following:

- (1) Assessing high-voltage hazards and fire risk following a collision.
- (2) Ensuring the safety of commercial drivers, first responders, other motorists, pedestrians, and surrounding communities.
- (3) Evaluating the health risks posed by toxic materials emitted into the air and establishing a safe and reasonable safety buffer to mitigate these risks.
- (4) Reducing wildfire risk.
- (5) Preventing structural damage to bridges and overpasses.
- (6) Achieving the most effective results using the least resources possible, including, but not limited to, water and air support resources.
- (7) Minimizing the duration of roadway closures.
- (8) Mitigating the risk of battery reignition.

(c) In developing the action plan, the ~~department~~ office shall consult with relevant stakeholders, including, but not limited to, *the Office of the State Fire Marshal, the Department of the California Highway Patrol, the Department of Transportation*, electric truck ~~manufacturers~~ *manufacturers*, and labor organizations.

(d) In developing the action plan, the ~~department~~ office may also consult with any relevant state or federal agency.