

Committee Print

(SHOWING THE TEXT OF H.R. 9615, AS FAVORABLY FORWARDED BY THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT ON JULY 14, 2026)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9615

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

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
6 Act”.

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

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

1 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
2 trator” means the Administrator of the Environ-
3 mental Protection Agency.

4 (2) BATTERY.—The term “battery” has the
5 meaning given such term in section 273.9 of title 40,
6 Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regu-
7 lations).

8 (3) DESTINATION FACILITY.—The term “des-
9 tination facility” has the meaning given such term
10 in section 273.9 of title 40, Code of Federal Regula-
11 tions (or any successor regulations).

12 (4) LARGE QUANTITY HANDLER OF UNIVERSAL
13 WASTE.—The term “large quantity handler of uni-
14 versal waste” has the meaning given such term in
15 section 273.9 of title 40, Code of Federal Regula-
16 tions (or any successor regulations).

17 (5) LITHIUM-ION BATTERY.—The term “lith-
18 ium-ion battery” means a battery that uses the
19 movement of lithium ions between two electrodes to
20 store and release energy.

21 (b) INTERIM REQUIREMENTS FOR LITHIUM-ION BAT-
22 TERIES.—Until the date on which the Administrator
23 issues the rule pursuant to subsection (c), in lieu of the
24 requirements described in section 273.60(a) of title 40,
25 Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regula-

1 tions), a destination facility that stores lithium-ion bat-
2 teries prior to recycling such lithium-ion batteries shall
3 comply with—

4 (1) the requirements described in sections
5 273.33(a)(1), 273.35, 273.36, and 272.37 of title
6 40, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor
7 regulations), which would apply if the destination fa-
8 cility were a large quantity handler of universal
9 waste; and

10 (2) the requirements described in section
11 273.60(b) of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations
12 (or any successor regulations), which would apply if
13 the destination facility did not store the lithium-ion
14 batteries prior to recycling such lithium-ion bat-
15 teries.

16 (c) UNIVERSAL WASTE RULEMAKING FOR LITHIUM-
17 ION BATTERIES.—

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

22 (2) CONTENTS.—In issuing the rule pursuant
23 to paragraph (1), the Administrator shall consider
24 including in such rule, in addition to any other issue

1 that arises as part of the notice and comment period
2 for such rule, the following:

3 (A) Universal waste requirements specially
4 tailored for lithium-ion batteries.

5 (B) Elements of the interim requirements
6 for lithium-ion batteries specified in subsection
7 (b), as appropriate.

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

13 (D) Additional safety requirements needed
14 to address gaps in existing protections.

15 (3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this
16 subsection shall be construed to limit any future
17 rulemaking of the Environmental Protection Agency
18 regarding lithium-ion batteries.

19 **SEC. 3. TECHNICAL UPDATES TO THE MERCURY-CON-**
20 **TAINING AND RECHARGEABLE BATTERY**
21 **MANAGEMENT ACT.**

22 Section 104(a) of the Mercury-Containing and Re-
23 chargeable Battery Management Act (42 U.S.C.
24 14323(a)) is amended by striking “the regulations pro-
25 mulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency at 60

1 Fed. Reg. 25492 (May 11, 1995), as effective on May 11,
2 1995” and inserting “part 273 of title 40, Code of Federal
3 Regulations (or any successor regulations)”.